



Daily Report

Soviet Union

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12 November 1991

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NOTICE TO READERS: The United States Government recognizes the independence of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

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Arms Control & Disarmament

Obukhov Views Strategic Stability Issues

PM0811154791 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI
in Russian No 44, 27 Oct 91 p 12

[Interview with USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksey Obukhov by unidentified correspondent under the "Disarmament" rubric; place and date not given: "What Will Come After Madrid"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksey Obukhov answers your MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI correspondent's questions. It is intended that he will be in charge of disarmament in the new Soviet-U.S. Strategic Stability Group (headed by A. Yakovlev).

[Correspondent] How, in your view, could this process develop after the meeting of the two presidents in Madrid?

[Obukhov] The latest initiatives by Bush and Gorbachev indicate, among other things, that a qualitatively different phase in disarmament has set in. Why? In addition to the traditional talks, unilateral measures are now being taken which serve as a sign of good intention and invite reciprocal actions. The nature of monitoring them is also changing—it will now be carried out solely on the basis of exchanging information about how the commitments are being fulfilled. Such is the extent of our trust.

What could figure on the post-Madrid agenda? The problem of strengthening strategic stability, creating joint missile-warning systems, developing environmentally safe techniques for the storage, transportation, and utilization of nuclear charges, and halting the production of fissile materials for weapons. The U.S. proposal on limited, nonnuclear ABM systems will be examined.

[Correspondent] There is real destruction of weapons under way for the first time in many years. The question arises: How much is this costing and can expenditure be reduced? There is also the opinion held that the Americans are destroying their weapons more effectively and that our side has made miscalculations here....

[Obukhov] I can completely rule that out. The destruction procedure is being discussed at the actual talks, and on the Soviet side this is not the creation of one individual, but represents an interdepartmental agreement. The rules governing weapons destruction are drawn up after complex discussion and are—like everything else—a compromise. Take, for example, the Treaty on Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles. The U.S. proposals here, say, regarding the transport systems on which the missiles are mounted, seemed very tough. We sought, however, to retain them for use for nonmilitary purposes. We succeeded in this to a certain extent: We demonstrated the rational nature of such an approach. In such cases your partner is always worried lest something be left not completely destroyed.

It is difficult to say for whom the cost of destroying the equipment is greater. We have a different way of calculating the cost and employ a different technique—the more sophisticated it is, the less the outlay. However, the high cost of the whole process does worry both us and the Americans. For example, we have both realized that the cumbersome monitoring procedure is not justified from the standpoint of cost. And we have abandoned it.

Finally, from next year the financing of arms reduction will be allocated a separate heading in the Union budget. This figure will become known when the budget is confirmed, but it will certainly amount over the next few years to a significant sum. Although there will nevertheless ultimately be a gain made through conversion and doing away with expenditure on maintaining and modernizing armaments.

Implementation of Disarmament Treaties Viewed

LD0711204191 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service
in English 1310 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Text] Many experts question whether this country is able to act on the provisions of the disarmament treaties it has signed, say the multilateral treaty on the reduction of the conventional armed forces in Europe, or the Soviet-U.S. START treaty. The treaties concern all former Soviet republics which have now become sovereign countries. A view from the chief of the Soviet General Staff's Legal Department, Lieutenant-General Fedor Ladygin.

Even though the treaties' ratification may face opposition, Gen Ladygin assumes they will be ratified. Once they are ratified they must be observed. This country has already taken action on a number of their provisions: A team of British inspectors is going to visit the Soviet Union soon to see what this country is doing on the treaty on the conventional armed forces in Europe; a Soviet team visited Britain late last month. Similar inspection tours have taken place in a few other countries. But inspections as such are sure to face many problems in the future. Gen Ladygin agrees.

The current situation in the Soviet Union will probably present problems, including those related to the inspection tours, but the problems can be negotiated. It is time to decide how inspection tours will be carried out of the Soviet arsenals in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. Gen Ladygin sees the need for special consultations and talks to settle that problem. And there are major military facilities in the three Baltic states. It would make more sense to leave them where they are. Lease conditions may be negotiated in this case. The whole variety of such problems are being considered and negotiated, the Chief of the Soviet General Staff's Legal Department Lt. Gen. Fedor Ladygin said in conclusion.

Worldwide Issues**NATO Session Ends in Rome; Leaders Remark****Pankin Briefs Media**

*LD0911175391 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1626 GMT 9 Nov 91*

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow, 9 Nov (TASS)—USSR Foreign Minister Boris Pankin has called his first impressions "positive" regarding the results of the session of the NATO Council at heads of state and government level, which ended in Rome. Speaking today at a news conference in Moscow, he stressed that the decisions made in the Italian capital were "the long-awaited reply from NATO to the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact."

The North Atlantic bloc has come to feel "uncomfortable" without an enemy, the minister continued, and NATO's aspiration to bring "the countries of central and Eastern Europe, including the USSR, and also the Baltic states, into the orbit of cooperation is a step in the right direction." The Rome declaration on peace and cooperation adopted at the session will not only provide an additional opportunity for communication but will also allow relations between countries to be switched from the military sphere to the political. For Boris Pankin, the appeal to the USSR by NATO countries adopted in Rome is completely natural. The changes which are taking place in the country cannot be ignored since the processes which have begun are accompanied by various negative phenomena and even "cataclysms." However, the minister noted, answers to some of the questions raised in the appeal have already been given. A union of sovereign states will be the successor of the USSR with all the resultant consequences. Nuclear weapons will remain under the control of a central authority, namely the president.

Boris Pankin informed journalists that Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti has sent his personal representative to Moscow. He will arrive in the Soviet capital tomorrow, and on 11 November he will meet USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev and will inform him about the results of the session. NATO will receive a final answer after the proposals received from that bloc are discussed at a session of the USSR State Council.

The head of the Soviet foreign policy department reported the coming Moscow talks with a delegation from the Afghan opposition, which will arrive tomorrow headed by Burhanuddin Rabani, the leader of the Afghanistan Islamic community. The main thing at the talks is "to launch the peace process in Afghanistan," Boris Pankin said. One of the priority questions, in his words, will be the fate of Soviet POW's. The Afghan opposition intends to discuss the problem of their prisoners as well. Answering a question on the reasons for postponing the talks, the minister stressed that this was done at the request of the Afghan opposition, which had

difficulties forming a delegation. "We will hold the talks with those who are responsible for the situation," Boris Pankin said.

Speaking about the situation in Yugoslavia, the minister stated that USSR Ambassador Gennadiy Shikin, recently dispatched to Belgrade, has precise instructions from the USSR president and the Foreign Ministry "to do everything within his power to get the Serbs and Croats to the negotiating table."

PRAVDA Lauds Changes

*PM1111111191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
9 Nov 91 p 4*

[Special correspondents Nikolay Miroshnik and Vladimir Peresada "View From Rome:" "New Strategy for NATO"]

[Text] If the most important event in NATO's history is considered to be its self-creation, then NATO circles are already describing the 7 and 8 November conference involving the 16 North Atlantic alliance countries' heads of state and government as the second most important.

That is obviously the case. The Rome meeting amended NATO's activity on an unprecedented scale and depth. There have been "cosmetic repairs" before, but the NATO leadership has never even thought of touching the "holy of holies"—the alliance's strategic concept enshrined at the dawn of the "cold war" and invariably directed at confrontation with the "Eastern bloc," mainly the Soviet Union. Now not only has a new strategy been announced that excludes the principle of confrontation, but the course has also been set for cooperation with former adversaries behind the "Iron Curtain."

The press center, where almost 1,500 journalists from dozens of countries were gathered, was jam-packed not only with people but also with... documents piled up on the tables. The conference adopted an unusually large number of documents, but, needless to say, the quantity is not the main thing. They are virtually all exceptionally unusual in terms of content.

"The prevailing factor at our conference was the alliance's new approach to the situation in Europe that has developed as a result of the changes in the Soviet Union and East Europe," M. Woerner, NATO's secretary general, said at the final news conference. All the decisions adopted in Rome must be assessed from that viewpoint, he stressed.

I would like to single out three of the Rome documents. The first and bulkiest formulates NATO's new strategic concept. The essence of the transformation resides in the recognition that, in the opinion of the alliance member countries, the previous threat of a massive military incursion from the East no longer exists. On that premise the political emphasis in NATO's activity is intensified and the military emphasis weakened. The main aim—of

strengthening stability and peace in Europe—will henceforth above all be assured by developing dialogue and cooperation with neighbors in the East of the continent.

Having particularly noted the need for this cooperation, NATO also very clearly advocated cooperating with "Eastern partners" within the framework of the CSCE process. Moreover, whereas the North Atlantic alliance recently aspired to a priority role in the future architecture of European security, it has now effectively given up that idea, acknowledging for the first time the mutually complementary nature of its own and all-European structures.

The military section of the strategy has been modified as a result of the disappearance of the former "military threat." The "forward defense" doctrine of concentrating NATO troops on the border with what was the GDR has been abolished. Henceforth they will be stationed in garrisons in various NATO countries. Special stress is placed on mobility—for which "rapid response forces" in particular have been set up—and on reserves that are also to be rapidly moved "to crisis areas." The numerical strength of conventional and nuclear troops is being cut in line with international treaties to the "minimum level of sufficiency" (ground-launched tactical nuclear weapons are being eliminated altogether).

At the same time the principle of a U.S. troop presence in Europe, as well as the principle of the dual component of NATO defense—a combination of conventional and nuclear forces—remains unchanged. Atlantic political and military solidarity has been pronounced unshakable. Some autonomy in the defense affairs of the West European countries has been recognized; however, it is clear from the document that neither West Europe's current nor future possible defense structures can be an alternative to NATO.

All that is determined by the fact that NATO does not consider either its own or all-European security to be guaranteed. The concept of a "threat" has been removed from the NATO dictionary; however, a different concept—that of "risk"—has appeared instead. So the possibility of conflicts and crisis situations in all areas, above all in East Europe and the Soviet Union, is emphasized. We should not flatter ourselves: Even in the new conditions our country with its domestic disturbances and impressive military potential is the number one subject of concern for NATO.

It is no coincidence that a special statement on the situation in the USSR was adopted here over and above the previously envisaged package of decisions. It expresses the crux of this concern and also sets out a number of fundamental principles on which NATO is willing to base its relations with us. After expressing unconditional support for the process of democratization in the USSR and its intention of providing practical help in surmounting the difficulties, the conference also voiced serious concern that the "risk of instability" is increasing in the USSR. Given the dramatic political

changes, the document says, it is extremely important for the leaders of the USSR and the republics to pursue the kind of policy that would promote the implementation of all the Soviet Union's international agreements.

Particular disquiet is voiced regarding nuclear weapons. "We urge all authorities to refrain from taking any steps that would promote the spread of nuclear and other mass-destruction weapons. We welcome the Soviet leadership's intention of ensuring secure, responsible, and reliable control over these weapons by one organ of authority."

A document that may be described as a "declaration on cooperation" is, in the intention of the Rome conference, designed to help stabilize and, more broadly, establish a "new peaceful order" throughout Europe. It envisages the development of most extensive contacts and cooperation with the USSR, East Europe, and the three Baltic states. The intention is to set up a special institute—the North Atlantic Cooperation Council—to formalize the new relations with them, representing a mechanism for regular consultations and high-level political meetings.

The conference ended on an upbeat note. I would like to conclude my dispatch in a similar vein. I believe that, in responding to the changes in the eastern part of the continent, and our country in particular, NATO can by its decisions impart an additional impetus to their development and promote true partnership relations on what was until quite recently a divided continent.

Session Results Examined

PM1111111591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
9 Nov 91 Union Edition pp 1, 5

[Correspondents M. Ilinskiy and A. Suvorov report: "Ticket to Brussels for East Europe"]

[Text] Rome—The meeting of heads of state and government of the 16 North Atlantic alliance member countries has ended in Rome.

Some 10,000 police and carabinieri kept order in all the central squares and streets on 7-8 November. That was when the eternal city hosted a summit meeting of representatives of the North Atlantic alliance countries. The heads of the 16 NATO states and governments had come to the Italian capital. The forum held there, observers believe, opened a new page in the history of this military-political bloc.

There were two main documents: the "new strategic concept" and the statement on NATO's political foundation.

These documents formulated the alliance's reaction to the qualitative changes in Europe and the world. Elements of the new doctrine of "cooperation with former enemy countries" have been introduced into the basis of the NATO concept. But the NATO bloc itself—and this is the main postulate—indubitably remains the center of

the system of European defense and security. That, in our view, is the main conclusion of the Rome meeting. The partners' positions expressed especially "national notes," for example, reflecting each participant's desire to enshrine his own position.

U.S. President Bush spoke of NATO's leading role in creating the new peace and international order and noted the inevitability of the North Atlantic bloc's responsibility and the need to keep the "present historic turn of events" under control. Secretary of State Baker stated during a news conference that the United States will remain leader of the North Atlantic alliance for some time to come. "We have explained the U.S. position," he said, "and asked the other partners to put their cards on the table." I think that these words by the secretary of state implied Washington's desire to make it clear to its NATO partners that any form of common European defense is acceptable only on condition that it "supplements NATO."

Observers are highlighting the French president's viewpoint. In F. Mitterrand's opinion, the Atlantic bloc "must expand," taking into account the interests of the East European countries which have become "democratic states and which are concerned about their own security." F. Mitterrand's speech stressed two points. First, NATO is in the process of transformation, and second, are the concepts of the North Atlantic alliance and European security identical? In the French president's opinion, NATO will not be perceived as a "sacred" entity.

FRG Chancellor Kohl believes that the North Atlantic alliance remains the foundation of stability, and a united Europe is "inconceivable without a single European defense and security policy." The chancellor rejected "suspicions" that France's and Germany's aim is to create autonomous defense forces outside the NATO framework. In the North Atlantic alliance's interests, he stated, it is necessary to "reinforce it while simultaneously strengthening Europe's bastions." As for his position on the East European countries, Italian television stressed his thesis in its evening broadcast: These states cannot be abandoned....

It was strange to hear in the session's lobbies a phrase which has almost disappeared from the pages of our press: the "common European home." Here, moreover, it was being used in the original sense previously given it by its author—M. Gorbachev. Nevertheless, the context in which this construct is being seen today is completely different. The future Europe needs this home, according to the session's participants, primarily to provide cast-iron rules of communal life to govern the conduct of its unpredictable "residents," namely the new state formations which are appearing on the former Union's territory.

The theme of the threat from the East was voiced with great persistence in Rome. Newspapers write that the USSR president shared his concern over the future of

Soviet nuclear weapons with the U.S. President in Madrid recently, and it is therefore no accident that, at the U.S. President's initiative, U.S. Secretary of State Baker secured the allies' agreement to the adoption of a special declaration. It urges the former Soviet republics to pursue the kind of policy which would not threaten international peace and security. Nuclear weapons, Baker stated, "must not be the subject of any political deals at all."

At the closing news conferences, the Rome forum participants expressed on the whole satisfaction with the results achieved, namely the new concept of NATO's strategic defense approved 7 November and the political document of 8 November 1991. The bloc countries' leaders outlined the shape of the alliance's new strategy in an extensive 16-page document. It defines the geographical direction of the potential threat—the Near East, North Africa, and East Europe (meaning mainly the European part of Soviet territory).

To a certain extent the role of nuclear weapons is reexamined and it is asserted that strictly political considerations are the main aim of their retention in NATO's arsenals. The document notes the prospects for the reorganization of the bloc's conventional forces and emphasizes the creation of effective and highly mobile rapid reaction forces. Finally, it takes a step toward the recent persistent requests by East and Central European countries on the extension of political guarantees of security to them: A special Atlantic Cooperation Council including those countries is being created, which will hold its first session in Brussels 20 December.

The decision by NATO countries' defense ministers, adopted at the Nuclear Planning Group's session in Taormina (Sicily) in October 1991, to reduce the North Atlantic Bloc's nuclear arsenals in Europe by 80 percent within three years was officially approved at the session.

What are the main conclusions that journalists and politicians are drawing as they assess the Rome meeting's results? Transatlantic relations and interests remain the basis of NATO and its structures. At the same time the forum opened new pages which determined the new approaches to the North Atlantic bloc's future.

Official Views Law, Aid Situation in Oslo

LD0811180991 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1745 GMT 7 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondents Sergey Neshumov and Aleksandr Surikov]

[Excerpts] Oslo, 7 Nov (TASS)—The European seminar on democratic institutions is working for the fourth day in the Norwegian capital. [passage omitted]

Judging by the reaction in the lobbies of the seminar, the speech at the meeting by Sergey Alekseyev the head of the Soviet delegation was an outstanding event. Foreign experts showed a lively interest in how this authoritative

scholar occupying such a high state post as chairman of the USSR Committee of Constitutional Control assesses the situation in his country. The collapse of a single, in its time super-centralized, totalitarian state called the USSR is continuing, Alekseyev continued. This process is inevitable, in some respects, probably fortunate, but at the same time alarming as well, with the potential for destructiveness, universal tension, and interethnic conflicts. A further feature characterizing the situation in the country is, in the opinion of the Soviet representative, that overall the bureaucratic, authoritarian system continues to dominate. Unfortunately spontaneous violent methods also frequently prevail in the democratic processes as well, the pressure of the crowd is sometimes evident, the desire to solve many questions by administrative methods remains. Nevertheless, democracy has already conquered bases both in the centre and in a number of the republics. Public opinion which considers that there is no return to the previous order has strengthened.

In our country, Sergey Alekseyev stressed, there is presently not simply a need for law, but a thirst for an effective, strong law capable of regulating state authority, preventing dictatorship, and confirming immutable human rights. Among the specific problems demanding an immediate solution, he singled out the necessity of overcoming the state institutionization of the legal system in the Soviet Union and resurrecting private law, and creating the mechanisms which would exclude the possibility of power leaving the control of the people. It would be very good, the speaker said, if our forum developed international criteria regarding the institutions of the state of emergency and the delegating of powers. The institution of delegating is very dangerous. It is necessary, but it can erode and destroy the very system of allocating authority. There is sense in thinking about increasing the prerogatives of the judicial authorities. Under conditions when a diffusion between legislative and executive authority is taking place, it is namely the judicial authority which takes up the forward positions in strengthening democracy. It must be strengthened so that it becomes a reliable shield against the arbitrariness of administrative, and if one likes, legislative authority.

Now the whole world is talking about aid to our country, the chairman of the USSR Committee of Constitutional Control stated in conclusion. Yes, we need aid—with food, medicines and technology. A big thank you to the world for these good motives. But I think that we need aid no less in the sphere of law, in affirming the high class, highly civilized legal institutions. We hope that the forum in Oslo will take a serious step in this direction.

Gorbachev, U.S. Governors' Group Discuss Aid
LD1111204591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1355 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Moscow, 11 Nov (TASS)—There was a meeting today between Mikhail Gorbachev and the leaders of the

National Association of U.S. Governors, R. Romer and M. Castle. They are in Moscow to study the possibilities of direct economic and technical assistance from the American states for the reforms being implemented in the USSR.

Greeting, in the person of the American governors, those forces in the United States whose positions favor concrete support for radical transformations in the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev placed high value on the decision of the U.S. President to grant humanitarian aid to the USSR, and noted the deep understanding of the U.S. leadership of the processes that are taking place in the Soviet Union. There cannot be a run-of-the-mill reaction to what is happening, as we all have an interest in keeping the economy and social situation on the rails at this dramatic moment in history, during the transition to the market, Mikhail Gorbachev stressed.

The U.S. governors noted the important stabilizing role of the central leadership in this critical period for the country, and stressed that the USSR president has great support in the United States.

On behalf of the national association of governors, which unites the highest officials of 50 states, R. Romer and M. Castle expressed their readiness to provide essential aid in the most important areas of the USSR, particularly those of food and medicines.

Silayev, U.S. Agriculture Undersecretary Meet
LD1111225591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1952 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Petukhov]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Nov (TASS)—Problems of the U.S. granting food aid to the Soviet Union were the focus of talks held this evening between Ivan Silayev, chairman of the Committee for the Operational Management of the USSR National Economy, and U.S. Undersecretary for Agriculture Richard Crowder. As the TASS correspondent learned from the apparatus of the Committee for the Operational Management of the USSR National Economy, Crowder heads a delegation of U.S. experts who arrived today in Moscow. Committee representatives refused to report the details of the talks or their results, falling back on their confidential nature.

Further on Admiral Chernavin's U.S. Visit
LD0811233791 Moscow TASS in English 2306 GMT 8 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Stanislav Lunev]

[Text] Washington November 8 TASS—Admiral of the Fleet Vladimir Chernavin, commander-in-chief of the Soviet Navy and deputy defence minister, who is currently in the United States on a visit, on Thursday [7 November] ended his stay in the U.S. capital and set out on a tour of the country.

While in Washington, D.C., he met and held talks with Paul Wolfowitz, U.S. undersecretary of defence for policy, General Colin Powell, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Henry Lawrence Garrett, U.S. secretary of the Navy, Admiral Frank Kelso, chief of Naval Operations, General Carl Mundy, commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, and other U.S. officials.

In an exclusive interview with TASS, Admiral Chernavin pointed out at the close of the talks that he had set out his view on further development of the Soviet Armed Forces, reaffirmed the stand of the top Soviet military leadership that Soviet nuclear forces should be controlled by a single authority, and emphasised the circumstance that the Soviet Armed Forces will be reduced in accordance with the earlier made statements. His view found understanding with U.S. military leaders.

The major importance of the agreement between the two countries on the prevention of incidents in the open sea and air space over them—the 20th anniversary of which will be marked in Moscow in May next year—was emphasised during the talks, the Soviet admiral said.

Both the Soviet and U.S. sides positively appraised the initiatives of the presidents of the Soviet Union and the United States on tactical nuclear weapons and pointed out that the triumph of democracy in the Soviet Union was of great importance for the whole world and for subsequent development of the international situation.

In addition, the two sides stated the proximity of the two countries' positions and views on further use of Navies and their further reduction under the existing treaties.

During the tour of the country, Admiral Chernavin is due to visit the U.S. chief naval base on the Atlantic coast at Norfolk, Virginia, as well as Newport, Rhode Island, and New York.

U.S. Military 'Might' Be Sent To Render Aid

*PM0811164391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
2 Nov 91 Moscow Edition p 1*

[Untitled report from IZVESTIYA, TASS, INTERFAX, POSTFACTUM, REUTER, and PRESS ASSOCIATION agencies roundup column]

[Text] The U.S. Congress is preparing a plan by which U.S. servicemen might be sent to the Soviet Union this winter to render humanitarian aid. It is proposed to allocate around \$1 billion from the U.S. military budget for these purposes.

Near East & South Asia

Rabbani Leads Mujahidin Delegation to Moscow

Departs Islamabad 9 Nov

*PM0911000391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
9 Nov 91 Union Edition p 5*

[Unattributed report: "Mujahidin Delegation Flies to Moscow"]

[Text] According to an AFP report, a delegation of the Afghan opposition headed by Rabbani has left Islamabad for Moscow by air today. The delegation will arrive in Moscow on 10 November after a stopover in Saudi Arabia for the Hajj. At a news conference prior to departure, Rabbani declared that the mujahidin are hoping that the Soviet Union will put forward concrete proposals for establishing lasting peace in Afghanistan. "We believe that the Russians have weighty proposals to make; otherwise, there would be no reason for us to go to Moscow," he said. "We are confident that peace will come from Moscow." Noting that the reason for the continuing war is "Najibollah's illegitimate government," Rabbani did not specify whether the mujahidin are taking along specific proposals as to who should replace Najibollah. According to his words "everything will be revealed at the negotiation table." Replying to a question, Rabbani said that the issue of Soviet POWs will be discussed at the upcoming talks. "I myself am concerned about the fate of the Soviet people and the Afghans who disappeared during the war."

Rabbani Previews Talks

*LD1011150791 Moscow TASS in English 1345 GMT
10 Nov 91*

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Lebedev]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, November 10 TASS—"During talks in Moscow, we shall have a dialogue only with the Soviet Union," stated Burhanuddin Rabbani, minister of foreign affairs of the Afghan mujahidin "interim government".

Speaking at a news conference in the Saudi city of Jeddah on Saturday [9 November], he rejected any participation of representatives of the Afghanistan authorities in the forthcoming talks in Moscow.

The composition of a future Afghan government will not be considered at the forthcoming talks, since this is an "internal affair of the people of Afghanistan", Rabbani said.

Rabbani, who will head a mujahidin delegation at the talks in Moscow, voiced hope that the changes that had taken place in the Soviet Union would promote success at the talks.

The delegation, Rabbani said, intends to hand a Soviet serviceman, who was held captive by Afghan rebels, back to the Soviet Union.

Foreign Ministry Official Comments

OW1211044891 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1554 GMT 11 Nov 91

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature by M. Mayorov and I. Porshnev; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Reaching political settlement in Afghanistan and the return of Soviet prisoners of war are the primary tasks which stand before the Soviet Foreign Ministry during talks with a delegation of Afghan mujahidin who are visiting Moscow, according to a responsible employee of the Soviet Foreign Ministry. In conversation with a "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent, he remarked that in his opinion, it would be unrealistic to expect much from the present meeting, which is the first large-scale contact with mujahidin in Moscow. But it would also be incorrect to think that nothing would come of the meeting. "Simply the fact that the mujahidin would visit Moscow says a lot," emphasized the Soviet diplomat.

In the diplomat's words, the talks in Moscow may continue for three days. Tomorrow, November 12th, the mujahidin will have a meeting with the Soviet and Russian foreign ministers, Boris Pankin and Andrey Kozirev, respectively. Representatives of Soviet Central Asian republics bordering Afghanistan will also be present at the meeting.

Meet Parents of Soviet POWs

LD1111194991 Moscow TASS in English 1908 GMT
11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Vasily Titov]

[Text] Moscow November 11 TASS—A delegation from the "interim government" of Afghan mujahidin headed by Acting Foreign Minister Burhanuddin Rabbani today met parents and the near and dear ones of Soviet soldiers taken prisoners in Afghanistan.

The meeting was organized on the initiative of the Russian authorities and the public committee of families and relatives of servicemen missing in Afghanistan.

Almost one hundred parents of soldiers still kept by mujahidin or missing gathered at the Russian parliamentary centre.

The mothers tried to convey their sorrow and pain to the representatives of the Afghan opposition and convince leaders of Peshawar and Iranian groupings to free all Soviet prisoners of war without preliminary political conditions.

Soviet participants in the meeting noted that the representatives of the opposition had more than once declared

the POW problem humanitarian and demonstrated their readiness to contribute to its solution.

The speakers called on mujahidin to confirm their intentions with specific deeds and, as the first step, submit their information on whereabouts of former Soviet soldiers and help establish communications with them.

Burhanuddin Rabbani noted he understands the pain of Soviet mothers waiting for their sons to return. At the same time, he cannot help reckoning with expectations of parents and the near and dear ones of mujahidin held in Afghanistan.

Today's meeting also witnessed tears of happiness. It appeared that father of Ilkhom Yerkayev from Uzbekistan happened to be among the Soviet participants in the meeting. On the eve of the delegation's arrival, there were reports about the possibility of the liberation of his son.

Burhanuddin Rabbani passed over to Muhammad-Yusuf Yerkayev a letter from his son and explained that Ilkhom has not decided whether to return home and is now staying in Saudi Arabia.

The delegation head said he is ready to help the parents meet their son.

Received by Pankin

LD1211095391 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0918 GMT 12 Nov 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Vasily Titov]

[Text] Moscow, 12 Nov (TASS)—Talks have begun in the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs between Foreign Minister Boris Pankin and the delegation from the "interim government" of the Afghan opposition, headed by Burhanuddin Rabbani, the leader of the "Islamic Society of Afghanistan." The mujahidin delegation is in the USSR at the invitation of the Russian and Soviet authorities.

It is thought that the topic of the first round of talks will be general problems of the settlement in Afghanistan, including such complex issues as the fate of the current Kabul government. Attempts will also be made to find points of contact on the issue of the practical implementation of the UN plan for a settlement in Afghanistan. It is not excluded that Boris Pankin will attempt to convince the mujahidin of the necessity for a gradual cease-fire as one of the basic conditions for the transition to primarily political methods of unravelling the conflict. Although as far as the last condition is concerned, one can hardly expect any more from the Afghan delegation than general promises to discuss this issue in Peshawar after its return. As is well-known, the representatives of the most influential and bellicose groups did not come to Moscow.

The situation at the talks will be complicated by the fact that representatives of the mujahidin based in Iran are

also taking part in the talks. Before today, it was difficult to speak about any unity between the Peshawar and Iran alliances in the resolution of the Afghan problem.

Meet With Shevardnadze

*LD1211100791 Moscow TASS in English 0949 GMT
12 Nov 91*

[By TASS correspondent Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow November 12 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, president of the Soviet Foreign Policy Association, on Tuesday [12 November] received a delegation of Afghan mujahidin headed by Burhanuddin Rabbani.

"We know Eduard Shevardnadze as one of those who discussed the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan," Rabbani said.

He said the meeting was "interesting and useful".

Foreign Ministry on New Golan Settlements

*LD0811202691 Moscow TASS in English 2018 GMT
8 Nov 91*

[Text] Moscow November 8 TASS—Moscow expresses concern over reports about Israel opening a new Jewish settlement on the Golan Heights, the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate announced today.

"We proceed from the belief that the negotiating process between Arabs and Israel, which successfully opened in Madrid, clearly presupposed that each party to the conflict will display goodwill and abstain from making steps capable of complicating the accomplishment of the task to establish peace between Israel and its neighbours.

"The continuation of the settling activity on occupied Arab territories, to which the Golan Heights undoubtedly belong, runs contrary to the Israeli Government's repeatedly protested interest in confidence-building measures on both sides.

"This activity hampers the creation of a favourable atmosphere in the Middle East. The freezing of the settlement building activity for the period of negotiations, which began at the Madrid conference, would be viewed by the entire world community as a positive step.

"The Soviet Union hopes that the Government of Israel will respond constructively to the anxiety expressed in this connection and make steps to remove agitation around this problem".

Sub-Saharan Africa

Further on Foreign Minister Botha's Visit

Meets With Shevardnadze

*LD0811163291 Moscow TASS in English
1619 GMT 8 Oct 91*

[Text] Moscow November 8 TASS—"It is possible to revise more boldly relations of South Africa with many countries, taking into account changes that have taken and are taking place in the Republic," President of Soviet Foreign Political Association Eduard Shevardnadze said today during his meeting with South Africa's Foreign Minister Roelof Botha at the association's headquarters in Moscow.

According to the association's press service, Shevardnadze stressed that he favored "prompt and full normalization of relations between the USSR and South Africa" and expressed hope for a positive outcome of Botha's visit to Moscow. According to Shevardnadze, normalization of relations between the two countries will become a major step towards improving the situation both in the south of Africa and the world as a whole as it meets the interests of all peoples of the USSR and the Republic of South Africa.

Botha drew attention to the immense potential of the development of bilateral relations in the economic, scientific and technical fields. He noted the great interests of his country's business community in the possible cooperation with Soviet business people in the field of introducing high technologies and joint production of machinery and equipment.

Shevardnadze and Botha agreed that an official visit to Moscow by the president of the Republic of South Africa soon would "set much in motion" and become a logical culmination of the process of normalizing bilateral relations.

Both expressed conviction that relations between the two countries have a great future ahead.

Also today, Botha met the leader of the political analysis centre at the Foreign Political Association, Alexander Bessmertnykh.

RSA 'Ready' for Relations

*LD0811223891 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1947 GMT 8 Nov 91*

[Excerpt] Moscow, 8 Nov (TASS)—The Government of the Republic of South Africa is ready to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union at any time, South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha said at a news conference today. He is in Moscow on a private visit within the framework of a trip to the Baltic States and the Soviet Union.

"I do not see any obstacles to establishing normal relations between our two countries," the minister pointed out. In his words, he came "to conduct business first of all with the Soviet Union." "We recognize the USSR," he stressed.

The main aim of the visit by the South African minister to Moscow is to obtain information on the processes taking place in the country. "I have formed the opinion that both politicians and ordinary people are decisive about implementing the transformation which has begun." [passage omitted]

Consular Relations Protocol Signed

PM1111110991 *Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian*
11 Nov 91 *Union Edition* p 3

[TASS report: "USSR and Republic of South Africa Have Restored Consular Relations"]

[Text] The Soviet Union and the RSA [Republic of South Africa] have decided to restore consular relations, broken off in 1956. The protocol on the restoration of consular relations was signed by the foreign ministers of the two countries—Boris Pankin and Roelof Botha—at the end of a meeting they had 9 November.

During the brief news conference after the meeting, the ministers announced that there had been a discussion of the situation in the two countries and the progress of the reforms which are being implemented in them. "I see no difference in the positions of our governments with regard to fundamental principles, whether in the political field, the economy, or questions of basic human rights," Roelof Botha noted. "The two countries' governments now understand each other better."

The Soviet minister called the meeting "substantive and frank." In his opinion, the two states "still have a long way to go in developing relations." The restoration of consular relations, he believes, "will help us to continue to cooperate on the economic plane, in the field of culture, and in other spheres." At the same time, Boris Pankin pointed out that the Soviet Union "will follow the commitments it has made in accordance with UN decisions." As "favorable democratic process develop in South Africa we will of course not be the last to renounce the sanctions declared by the United Nations." If the processes in the RSA proceed "at the same speed as now and in the right direction," he stressed, then the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries "is not far off."

The USSR foreign minister announced that in the third 10-day period of December, RSA President Frederik de Klerk will stop over in the USSR during a trip abroad and may possibly meet with the USSR and Russian presidents.

Botha 'Encouraged' by Visit

LD0911223291 *Moscow TASS International Service*
in Russian 1827 GMT 9 Nov 91

[By TASS Diplomatic correspondent Sergey Nikishov]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 9 Nov (TASS)—RSA [Republic of South Africa] Foreign Minister Roelof Botha has ended his visit to our country, the first such visit in the history of mutual relations between the USSR and RSA. [passage omitted]

Commenting on the results of his visit at the request of the TASS correspondent, the minister said that "We now understand your problems better, we see them in their totality". He expressed the hope that the democratic forces would have success in implementing the transformations initiated.

Roelof Botha described as "the most specific result of his visit" the protocol he and USSR Foreign Minister Boris Pankin signed today on reestablishing consular relations between the two countries. "I see no obstacles to the restoration of normal relations between the two countries", he stressed.

During the meetings, agreements were reached on developing contacts in various spheres. The RSA foreign minister said that "there are huge opportunities for bilateral cooperation, trade, and exchange in the technological and cultural spheres." "I am returning to my country very encouraged by the results of the visit", Roelof Botha stressed.

East Europe

Gorbachev Receives CSFR Deputy Premier

LD1211150891 *Moscow TASS International Service*
in Russian 1442 GMT 12 Nov 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow, 12 Nov (TASS)—Discussion of the main directions for USSR-CSFR cooperation in the conditions of the new political situation in Europe formed the main topic of the meeting in Moscow today between Mikhail Gorbachev and CSFR Deputy Prime Minister Pavel Rychetsky.

As your TASS correspondent was informed by Andrey Grachev, head of the USSR president's press service, both sides emphasized the need for renewal and development of traditional, proven forms and channels for economic cooperation. It is from this point of view that the problems of trade exchange, industrial coproduction, and scientific and technological cooperation were examined. Pavel Rychetsky said that Czechoslovakia would assist the efforts of the USSR in the context of a program agreed with the leadership of the industrially developed Western countries.

Mikhail Gorbachev and Pavel Rychetsky briefed each other on political and economic processes and difficulties in their countries, connected with the search for new forms of state structure.

During discussion about the drafting of a treaty between the states, Pavel Rychetsky confirmed, on Gustav Havel's behalf, an invitation to Mikhail Gorbachev to visit the CSFR before the end of next year.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Yugoslavia

PM1111103591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
11 Nov 91 Union Edition p 3

["USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman's Statement"]

[Text] The USSR Foreign Ministry Information Department has issued the following statement:

"Alarm is increasing in the Soviet Union in connection with the unceasing and expanding bloodshed in Yugoslavia.

"The hostilities around the historical and cultural center that is Dubrovnik, the escalation of violence and destruction in eastern Slovenia, the acts of brutality against the Serbian population forced to flee their villages in Western Slovenia, and, finally, the artillery shelling of the cities of Apatin and Sid—all this attests to the unreadiness or inability of the sides to actually implement agreements, including the Moscow agreements, on the cessation of hostilities.

"At this hour when the fate of Yugoslavia and its peoples is being decided, it is more necessary than ever to display realism, a balanced approach, and state wisdom. Only the safeguarding of peace can prevent the country's collapse and lead it out of the political, interethnic, and economic crisis. To continue the peacemaking efforts and talks on a global Yugoslav settlement, specific steps are needed guaranteeing the cessation of the fratricidal war. We urge all Yugoslav sides to take such steps immediately and thus to ensure the continuation of the normal work of The Hague conference on Yugoslavia.

"We state again our full support for the efforts of the EC within the framework of the CSCE mandate with a view to mediating in the peaceful solution of the Yugoslav crisis and we treat with understanding the measures which the EC countries are taking with regard to Yugoslavia.

"Like other members of the Security Council, we are called on to support measures necessary to ensure an effective cessation of hostilities in Yugoslavia and the uninterrupted functioning of the process initiated within the framework of the conference on Yugoslavia mentioned in UN Security Council Resolution No. 713 of 25 September this year.

"Naturally, the raising of the question of embarking on broad-profile restrictive measures presupposing the enlistment of a substantial number of states should be

the subject of consultations within the framework of the United Nations with a preliminary study among UN Security Council member states.

"For our part we are prepared to continue to collaborate with all Yugoslav sides with a view to implementing the Moscow agreements and new efforts for the speediest attainment of a peace settlement in Yugoslavia."

Deputy Minister on Oil Embargo

OW1211043891 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1554 GMT 11 Nov 91

["Diplomatic Panorama" confirms its information from November 4th: On the Issue of an 'Oil Embargo' to Yugoslavia, USSR Will Be Led by the Opinion of Peaceful Cooperation (An exclusive interview with the Soviet deputy minister of foreign affairs, Yuriy Deryabin)"]—INTERFAX headline; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature by M. Mayorov and I. Porshnev; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Halting deliveries of fuel to Yugoslavia is "an extremely serious step," but if the UN Security Council supports the idea of "restrictive measures," then the Soviet Union will be ruled by the opinion of peaceful cooperation. Yuriy Deryabin, the Soviet deputy foreign minister, told this to "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] in an exclusive interview today, November 11th.

The diplomat noted that the UN for a few days now has been discussing the question of introducing economic sanctions to Yugoslavia. In his words, this is tied to the resolution taken September 25th by the UN Security Council, in which the necessity of taking effective measures to ensure the end of war in Yugoslavia was expressed.

Touching on the fact that the European Community is introducing economic sanctions to Yugoslavia, Deryabin emphasized that "we understand the reasons for these necessary measures." But, in as much as this question relates to a large number of states, in the USSR's opinion, it should be the example of consultation within the framework of the UN. It is impossible to exclude the fact that this will be discussed at a special meeting of the Security Council, the deputy minister stated.

The diplomat explained that the topic was a "difficult and serious question for the USSR," in as much as it is unclear if this step would be effective, and does not explain how a halt of oil deliveries would effect peaceful civilians. And, finally, there is a moral side to the issue. In Mr. Deryabin's opinion, however, the decision which the USSR makes will in the end depend on the "course of consultations and results which are reached by the UN Security Council." In conjunction with this, the diplomat remembered that a joint statement by the USSR, the U.S. and the European Community on October 16th "expressed a positive attitude towards those measures, which are being discussed by the EC.

The statements by the Soviet deputy foreign minister, and also the approach to the events support the information which "DP" reported on November 4th with reference to a "highly placed Soviet diplomat," but which was immediately denied by the RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY and Radio Russia.

UN Troops Contingent on Armistice

OW1211165691 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1345 GMT 12 Nov 91

[From INTERFAX's "Bulletin 2"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An armistice should be reached in Yugoslavia before the UN Security Council considers sending UN peace-keeping forces there. Such was the reaction of the USSR to the request to send UN forces to Croatia made by the Presidium of Yugoslavia to the Security Council.

In an interview given to an IF [INTERFAX] correspondent, USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Yuriy Deryabin stressed that the UN never sent its forces to any part of the globe before armistice had been reached and strictly observed there. They were used to maintain peace, not to pacify belligerents, he said.

Romanians Attempt To Cross Finnish Border

LD1011224591 Moscow TASS in English 2230 GMT
10 Nov 91

[Text] Moscow November 11 TASS—Two hundred Romanians on Sunday [10 November] tried to break through the border with Finland near the Soviet town of Vyborg. Several people were wounded and 35 arrested as a result of clashes with border guards and police special units, according to the Russian TV programme "Vesti". Finland does not issue entry visas for the Romanians, the programme reports.

West Europe

Shaposhnikov on Official Visit to Germany

Seen Off by Lobov, Grachev

LD1111102791 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0908 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Moscow, 11 Nov (TASS)—Air Force Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, USSR minister of defense, left for an official visit to Bonn today at the invitation of FRG Defense Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg. He was seen off at the airport by Army General Vladimir Lobov, USSR first deputy minister of defense and chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces; Colonel General Pavel Grachev, USSR first deputy minister of defense and chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic State Committee for Defense Issues; and other officials.

Klaus Blech, FRG ambassador to the USSR, was among those who saw him off.

Arrives for 3-Day Visit

LD1111133591 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1105 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Chistyakov]

[Text] Bonn, 11 Nov (TASS)— Air Force Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, USSR minister of defense, arrived in Germany today for an official three-day visit. He was met at the military section of Cologne-Bonn airport by Peter Wichert, state secretary at the FRG Ministry of Defense; Vladislav Terekhov, USSR ambassador in the FRG, and other officials.

There will be talks today between the USSR defense minister and Gerhard Stoltenberg, the head of the FRG military department. This afternoon Ye. Shaposhnikov will be received for talks by Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

During the meetings in Bonn, there are plans to discuss a wide range of issues. The main ones are expected to be practical aspects of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from German territory, prospects for the disarmament process and arms reductions on the continent, and setting up all-European security structures. In the opinion of local observers, the German side attaches great significance to the position of the USSR defense minister on such topical problems as the future military strategy of the Soviet Union which is undergoing radical changes, guaranteeing control over nuclear weapons, the possibility that national armed forces will come into being in the republics, and the observance by federation members of pledges which Moscow has assumed in the area of disarmament.

For his part, Ye. Shaposhnikov will be able to gain "first hand" information about the results of the NATO Council session in Rome. One of the central issues on the agenda for this session was prospects for cooperation between the alliance and former Warsaw Pact states.

The future program of the Soviet minister's stay in Germany envisages a visit to the FRG Air Force base at Noervenich near Cologne and learning about the activities of the Bundeswehr Academy in Hamburg. Ye. Shaposhnikov will meet with the commanding officers and servicemen of the Western Group of Forces on Wednesday, 13 November.

Commenting on Shaposhnikov's visit, the local press specially underlines the fact the new USSR defense minister is undertaking his first foreign visit to Germany. It is noted that during the days of the August putsch, the marshal presented himself as a supporter of democratic changes and that he is greatly trusted by USSR President M. Gorbachev and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic President B. Yeltsin. Ye. Shaposhnikov, who intends to carry out a reform of the

Soviet Armed Forces, believes that the Army in the future should stay out of politics, DPA writes in connection with this.

Meets With Kohl

*LD1111195991 Moscow TASS in English
1951 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Semyonov]

[Text] Bonn November 11 TASS—German Chancellor Helmut Kohl received here today visiting Soviet Defence Minister Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov.

During the meeting, Kohl expressed the hope the Soviet troops withdrawal from German territory will go on in accordance with the established schedule.

The sides also discussed issues connected with the future structure of the Soviet Armed Forces, including the control over Soviet nuclear weapons.

Talks 'Very Fruitful'

*LD1111225891 Moscow TASS in English
2228 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Chistyakov]

[Text] Bonn November 12 TASS—Soviet Defence Minister, Air Force Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov described "as very fruitful and interesting" the negotiations held on the first day of his visit to Germany.

In a TASS interview the minister stressed his conversations with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Defence Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg were held in an atmosphere of frankness and mutual understanding, and noted they will contribute to the expansion of cooperation between the two countries, including that in the military sphere.

"The negotiations with the minister of defence and the German chancellor were very constructive," Shaposhnikov said.

The fact that Shaposhnikov made his first foreign visit as the Soviet defence minister to Germany was provoked by unique contacts in the military sphere between the Soviet Union and Germany: Germany is the only NATO member-country on which territory Soviet troops will remain until the end of 1994.

Secondly, this visit renders its due to the important role Germany plays in the European and world politics.

During conversations with Helmut Kohl and Gerhard Stoltenberg, Shaposhnikov confirmed that all the treaties previously concluded by the Soviet Union will be fulfilled. Complete understanding with leaderships of the sovereign republics has been reached on this issue, the marshal noted.

The negotiations also focused on prospects for the cooperation in military sphere between the Soviet Union and Germany.

"We agreed that the interaction between our two countries will intensively develop in this sphere," Marshal Shaposhnikov said.

"The stay of the Soviet troops in Germany enables the creation of a solid basis for further development of qualitatively new relations even after the last Soviet soldier leaves German territory."

The sides discussed specific forms of cooperation, including the expansion of direct contacts between servicemen from the two states.

"Judging by the atmosphere and content of the meetings we had, the German side does not consider the Soviet Union its possible military opponent. I should say I do not associate today's German Armed Forces with the 'enemy image'," Shaposhnikov told TASS.

Foreign Ministry Aide on Norway Expulsions

*92UF0172A Moscow TRUD in Russian
2 Nov 91 p 4*

[Unattributed article: "Farewell, Oslo!"]

[Text] It was reported that eight employees of the Soviet Embassy were expelled from Norway. For what? (Yu. Likhmanov, Moscow)

Acting head of a department of the Second European Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs V. Rozanov answers:

The reason for such an unexpected decision by the Norwegian side has not yet been finally explained. The only thing that is clear is that the entry into Norway for our above-mentioned eight diplomats will be closed. Regarding the information about the expulsion, it is not completely accurate. The Norwegian side says in its statement that seven employees of the embassy and one member of the trade representation will be deprived of the right to work in Oslo. However, five of them left Norway some time ago in connection with the staff cuts taking place in our ministry.

Latin America & Caribbean

Admiral Chernavin Arrives for Visit to Cuba

*LD1111035591 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0245 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[By TASS Correspondent Sergey Sereda]

[Text] Havana, 11 Nov (TASS)—Admiral V.N. Chernavin, commander in chief of the Navy and USSR deputy minister of defense, arrived 10 November in Cuba on an official visit. He was met at Havana's international airport by Rear Admiral Perez Betancourt,

commander of the Revolutionary Navy of Cuba, who welcomed the important guest to Cuban soil on behalf of Raul Castro, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba.

"This visit," Admiral Chernavin said in an interview with a TASS correspondent, "is taking place at the invitation of Raul Castro. The agenda envisages that talks will be held with General Ulises Rosales del Toro, chief of the general staff of the Revolutionary Armed Forces division, and Rear Admiral Perez Betancourt, commander of the Cuban Navy. Cooperation between the USSR Navy and the Revolutionary Navy of Cuba will be discussed in the course of these talks. The visit is planned to last four days, after which we will return to Moscow."

Talks To Begin on Troop Withdrawal From Cuba

*OW1211125591 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1155 GMT 12 Nov 91*

[Text] According to IF's [INTERFAX's] sources, talks on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Cuba will open in Havana Thursday [14 November]. Special envoy Vyacheslav Ustinov will leave for the Cuban capital with a group of negotiators on Wednesday [13 November].

In his exclusive interview for IF, Mr. Ustinov said that the delegation would include officials from the USSR Foreign and Defense Ministries. He said he had been empowered to negotiate a number of specific issues relating to the timetable and order of the withdrawal of the Soviet brigade numbering less than 3,000 men, mostly instructors, to whom no special weapon system were attached.

Although the brigade had never played any strategically important role, the USSR was determined to end its military presence in foreign countries altogether, Mr. Ustinov said.

He added that the Soviet pullout from Cuba would not be preconditioned by the scrapping of the U.S. Guantanamo base on the island, because "the problem has never been looked at from this angle."

Ambassador to Chile Said To Defect to U.S.

*PM1111095991 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 9 Nov 91 p 4*

[Report by correspondent S. Zavorotny: "Ambassador No More"]

[Text] Buenos Aires—Yuriy Pavlov, Soviet ambassador to Chile, has decided not to return to Moscow but to remain permanently in the United States. A few days ago, he bid farewell to embassy staffers in Santiago and departed for a vacation in Moscow with his wife, two sons, and grandson via Miami. There he made the decision to spend his vacation and the rest of his life in Florida, along with his family.

Yuriy Pavlov is a Soviet career diplomat. He was our ambassador in Costa Rica, then chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Latin American Department, and USSR ambassador to Chile.

Pavlov was known in the USSR Foreign Ministry as an active supporter of rapprochement with the anti-Cuban opposition and an opponent of the Fidel Castro regime. According to some information, Cuban counterrevolutionary organizations have paid for the education of his elder son and daughter at U.S. universities as a mark of gratitude.

My telephone call to Santiago was answered by the embassy duty officer. According to him, there is no official confirmation of his departure as yet. However, embassy officials are aware that they have been orphaned. On taking leave of the collective, Yuriy Pavlov did say that he might not be returning to Chile after his vacation. The ambassador's words were linked at the time with the personnel redeployment and cuts taking place in the Foreign Ministry. But there was no concern about the ambassador's future: During the coup Pavlov had assembled the embassy staff—of which there are only five—and announced his resignation from the party.

According to information from reliable sources, a university professorship awaits the ambassador in Miami.

Pankin Confirms Report

*LD0911205291 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1550 GMT 9 Nov 91*

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow, 9 Nov (TASS)— Yuriy Pavlov, USSR ambassador to Chile, has decided not to come back home but to accept, instead, the offer of a teaching post at a university in Miami, USA.

This report, published by KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA this morning, was confirmed by USSR Foreign Minister Boris Pankin at a news conference at the USSR Foreign Ministry today. According to the minister, Pavlov had submitted his resignation application, in accordance with the decision by the Foreign Ministry collegium, together with all other employees of the ministry who have reached the age of 50. The application was to be considered in due course. At the same time, the ambassador decided to settle in Miami and to continue his career at a university there.

In Boris Pankin's opinion, "this is not a very good decision, ethically". The ambassador could have completed the assignment in his previous post and then concluded an official contract with the university. In this connection, the minister continued, the collegium recommended that Yuriy Pavlov should return to Chile, complete all the formalities in accordance with the diplomatic protocol, and then act according to his own

wishes. The ambassador, Boris Pankin said, has decided to follow the advice of the USSR Foreign Ministry.

Ambassador Denies Defection

*LD1211103991 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0822 GMT 12 Nov 91*

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Trushin]

[Text] Santiago, 12 Nov (TASS)—Yuriy Pavlov, the USSR's ambassador to Chile, has denied reports carried by numerous Soviet media outlets that he decided not to return from a vacation in the United States to the USSR. During an interview with TASS in the Chilean capital on 11 November, he said that he had made no such decision and had no reason whatsoever to do so. He also said that he had arrived in Santiago from Miami to "pay farewell protocol visits."

"Only the first part of the reports in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA and on Soviet television was right,

that I have decided to resign," Pavlov said. "As regards my intention not to return to my homeland—that is not so." The Soviet diplomat had requested to be allowed to resign from the post of USSR ambassador to Chile while on vacation in the United States, where his daughter is studying.

"There is confusion because I have accepted an offer from Miami University's International Research High School to spend some time as a researcher and lecturer at the school," Pavlov said. He is regarded as one of the leading Soviet specialists on Latin America.

The diplomat added that for some time, he had intended to engage in research and lecturing work following his retirement. He decided to go ahead with his plans after confirmation by the new leadership of USSR Foreign Ministry rules, whereby all diplomats over 60 should retire. "I made my decision because I did not want my fate decided in Moscow without me being involved," Yuriy Pavlov stated.

Political & Social

Rumors of Pankin's Resignation Circulate

OW1111221991 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1554 GMT 11 Nov 91

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" program; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The rumor has been spreading in diplomatic and journalistic circles that the Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin might shortly resign. Pankin has held the position of foreign minister since the failure of the August coup in Moscow. Pankin is a former Soviet ambassador to Sweden, and then to Czechoslovakia. In Prague he openly stated his dissent from the anti-constitutional coup in the Soviet Union, which, as is supposed, is why Gorbachev chose to remove Aleksandr Bessmertnykh and name Pankin to the position.

In the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Information Department, the topic was not being discussed, but it was said that such rumors "had been heard on the radio." Unofficial contacts with other sources report that diplomats believe a change of leadership could take place. As is acknowledged by some of its representatives, the Soviet Foreign Ministry finds itself in a severe crisis. The reorganization of this department, which Russian President Boris Yeltsin demanded at the Congress of Peoples' Deputies, is tied with a poorly hidden dissatisfaction with the ministry. Some diplomats feel that "Pankin is not the person to save the Soviet Foreign Ministry."

The first signs of dissatisfaction appeared immediately following Yeltsin's speech at the Russian Congress of Peoples' Deputies. At that time, Pankin was in Madrid, taking part in the international conference on the Middle East. He is being accused of the following pretension: Is it suitable that the minister is out of the country precisely when the fate of his ministry is being decided? On his return to Moscow, Pankin attempted to "win back" his position. He suggested reducing the Soviet Foreign Ministry by three times, and not by ten, as Russia has demanded.

The Soviet State Council has passed Pankin's proposition to reform the Soviet Foreign Ministry into a ministry of foreign relations and to abolish Soviet trade representatives outside the country. The new ministry would be responsible for foreign economic issues. In Pankin's words, the new ministry would preserve all of the functions of the old Soviet Foreign Ministry. In addition to this, the new ministry would coordinate the activities of the foreign ministries of the sovereign republics.

Diplomats who have spoken with a correspondent from "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] feel, however, that the minister is "mistaking what is desired for reality," and that he is not properly aware of the growing desire in the republics to conduct their international politics "with no middleman." In their opinion, the preservation of the

present leadership of the Soviet Foreign Ministry would mean that "a break up is inevitable."

The situation could only be saved, the diplomats noted, by a political figure who would be simultaneously acceptable to a minimum of three sides, Gorbachev, Yeltsin, and the leaders of the sovereign republics. The name of former Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze is most often mentioned for this position.

Shevardnadze, it is important to remember, still maintains authority among many of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's employees.

After the failure of the August coup, at a meeting a workers' collectives the Soviet Foreign Ministry turned to Gorbachev with the request that he name Shevardnadze Soviet foreign minister, and to Shevardnadze, that he accept such an appointment. Shevardnadze earlier had repeatedly talked about the possibility of returning to the ministry, and was wavering, but the Soviet president's appeal did not follow. Is it possible now? And how, if this were to happen, would Shevardnadze now react to such an appeal?

Much depends on the answers to these questions. In the words of one of Shevardnadze's aids, who spoke with "DP," "there is talk of Shevardnadze's return to the skyscraper on Smolensky Square, but at this point there have been no official offers on this account."

Political scientists think it is doubtful that Shevardnadze would agree to such an offer, even if it were to happen. It is understood that the disintegration of the Soviet Foreign Ministry reflects the general crisis of the doomed Union structure.

Further on Resignation Rumors

OW1211102891 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1400 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In the past few days in Moscow's journalistic circles close to the Soviet Foreign Ministry, the rumor has been spreading that Foreign Minister Boris Pankin may resign. At the press division an "INTERFAX" correspondent as told privately that such information had been coming from Western radio stations. In the Soviet Foreign Ministry, however, they are not ruling out a similar course of events, since the ministry is experiencing a severe crisis. The upcoming reorganization of the ministry, which Russian President Yeltsin recently claimed as necessary, will include a large reduction in the number of employees at the Foreign Ministry. Diplomats think that Pankin is not the person to save the Soviet Foreign Ministry. In their opinion, only the former foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, is capable of keeping the Soviet Foreign Ministry from falling apart.

One of Shevardnadze's aids has informed "IF" [INTERFAX] that "there are on-going discussions of his

return to Smolenskiy Square, but so far there have been no official offers on this account."

Further on Churkin on Ministry Reorganization

LD0811165691 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak
Network in Russian 1030 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Part two of interview with Vitaliy Churkin, chief of the USSR Ministry of External Relations Information Directorate, by radio observer Viktor Levin; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Levin] Vitaliy Ivanovich, I would like to dwell in greater detail on issues of the unity of foreign policy. As I understand it, now sovereign republics are not raising the issue of setting up their own embassies but rather wish to share embassies. This is a comforting point.

[Churkin] A certain clarification is required here. The thing is that according to the last constitution—that is, according to the Brezhnev constitution currently in force—republics have a full right to open embassies in foreign countries. Nobody is going to deprive them of this right. But it is a question of expediency. If republics chose this way, they would have considerable difficulties both with expenses and cadres but, mainly, there would be a certain period of transition—if they chose this way suddenly—when there would be neither Union nor republican representation abroad. This would have quite painful consequences. But I would like to stress that the current concept of restructuring our diplomatic service does not exclude the opening of republican embassies in different countries. It is another thing that republics have very common-sense approach now, in my view; this can be seen from the sitting of the State Council and the sitting of the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the USSR and sovereign republics that took place on 5 November. Republics are more inclined to send representatives to the already existing structures of USSR embassies. There are already 27 such representatives. I can be more specific: representatives of Azerbaijan and Georgia are already working in the Soviet Embassy in Egypt. At the same time they both are advisors at the USSR Embassy. That is, the diplomats seem to perform double functions: being an advisor at the USSR Embassy, the diplomat simultaneously represents a specific republic, and everybody in the country knows that regarding issues related to establishing links with that republic one should address him and deal with him.

To date there are already 27 republican representatives who work in our embassies from Afghanistan to Japan, from A to Z.

[Levin] That is, the whole alphabet.

[Churkin] Yes, the whole alphabet, practically. Another 13 are getting ready and are likely to leave for foreign countries soon, including high-ranking representatives such as... [changes thought] I will not disclose all the

details, but a very high-ranking representative of Kazakhstan, well-known in the diplomatic world, will soon be sent to the United Nations in New York as Kazakhstan's official representative.

[Levin] You mentioned the United Nations. Herein lies a key issue, perhaps. If there is common foreign policy, then it is clear who will hold the post of permanent member of the Security Council. But if there is no common policy, who will be the representative? Or are we going to lose this seat?

[Churkin] Well, this is a very important question indeed. There has been talk about, say, Russia's right to succession and full elimination of the USSR. Frankly speaking, I do not think this will happen automatically and in a very simple manner. Besides, being a representative of the Union Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I must think—although I am Russian to the core—I must think not only about Russia's interests but also about the interests of other republics. Russia, probably, will get a seat as the Security Council permanent member, but other republics will lose their representation as Security Council permanent member. And I repeat that I have doubts as to this question being solved automatically. I am afraid that, as a result, a kind of cataclysm may take place within the United Nations following which we can lose our seat as a UN Security Council permanent member altogether.

[Levin] And here we are approaching the issue of the need for a common foreign policy again.

[Churkin] Yes, indeed, a common foreign policy is important, of course, since it allows us to speak in the international arena with a more powerful voice and allows us to perform the role the world has gotten used to. But it seems to me that here again we must be guided not so much by certain considerations about our duty to the international community as by our own interests and forecast the consequences of a different turn of events without self-deception. I, for one, believe that, perhaps, a split in the Union and the emergence of 12 fully independent foreign policies, whatever the degree of their coordination, will sooner or later inevitably entail the emergence of 12 separate armed forces and will substantially undermine the possibility of preserving a centralized control over nuclear weapons. I think that neither the international community nor we and you, whatever republic we live in, are interested in such a turn of events.

[Levin] Vitaliy Ivanovich, the State Council has adopted a political decision. Does it follow from that that, as sports commentators say, only technical matters remain now?

[Churkin] No, it is not down to technical matters; I mean, technical matters, too, but, mostly, very painstaking work is ahead. I would like all ministries to observe the State Council's decisions.

[Levin] I asked that question because it is quite common in our country that the country's supreme political body adopts a very important and reasonable decision on the basis of consensus but then procrastination starts about implementing it. And I would like to express the hope that ministries of foreign affairs, which employ highly qualified specialists—and these are productive, not bureaucratic, ministries—would not follow this course, notorious in our country. What do you think, can this happen?

[Churkin] I hope not. I would like to mention that you have voiced a very correct thought that it is not a question of cutting off some bureaucratic appendage. If the Union Ministry of Foreign Affairs or a republican one is eliminated or considerably cut down, the above political production will simply disappear. There are no market forces that would start generating this foreign political production. And the concomitant losses of foreign political weight and some kind of intellectual foreign political profile of our country and republics abroad are inevitable. And one would not like to cause this because I am deeply convinced that, although our state is going through a most profound crisis, it is, nevertheless, a great power and is still perceived as such by the majority of people throughout the world.

[Levin] Let us hope for this. After all, we all would like to see our country be great, powerful, and rich.

Bakatin Letter on Move Against Gorbachev

PM1111130591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
9 Nov 91 p 2

[V. Bakatin "Letter to PRAVDA" followed by editorial commentary: "Haste Let You Down"—last nine paragraphs are editorial response]

[Text] To my profound regret, there has been no shortage of irresponsible statements in our country of late, statements presented as a "sensation," while effectively being provocative. The article that PRAVDA carried 6 November entitled "Criminal Proceedings Against USSR President" is among those "sensations."

There is no doubt that this is just part of a campaign against the USSR president and the State Council, which is a manifestation of extreme discontent on the part of reactionary forces relying on force—forces that lost the putsch and cannot resign themselves to the need for democratic transformations. It is to be regretted that PRAVDA, which recently declared itself an independent newspaper upholding the principle of objectivity, has joined this campaign. Various publications received the report on the personal "initiative" taken by V. Ilyukhin, chief of the USSR Prosecutor's Office administration to oversee the implementation of state security laws, but only PRAVDA has as yet rushed to offer its services.

Needless to say, the newspaper was put in a spot on the eve of 7 November by its haste and its desire to cause a

"sensation," adding to the tension in our already complex lives. By looking over the USSR Constitution and existing legislative acts, PRAVDA personnel would easily have discovered that V. Ilyukhin's resolution to bring criminal proceedings is not founded on law. The State Council's decisions under Article 164 of the USSR Constitution cannot be the object of supervision by the prosecutor's office and the USSR president has the right to immunity under the Constitution. These rights cannot be less than a deputy's rights and the president can only be deprived of them in accordance with the constitutional procedure with which everyone is familiar, especially since the putsch.

You must know that the decisions on recognizing independence were not adopted by the USSR president alone, but by the peoples of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia during referendums and then by the State Council which includes top officials from all the sovereign republics. Incidentally, under the Law "On USSR Organs of State Power and Government During the Transitional Period" the State Council was set up to "provide coordinated solutions to domestic- and foreign-policy issues affecting the republics' common interests" and resolving this issue does not contravene its competence or preclude subsequent talks at, and consideration by, the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Baltic states' secession from the Union does not contravene the norms of international law or the countless UN General Assembly resolutions acknowledging peoples' right to self-determination. The priority given to the norms of international law is one principle that we must master.

The corpus delicti can be discerned in V. Ilyukhin's actions and this takes the form of his exceeding his powers. But it must be admitted that he was not previously seen to do that. It is well-known that in the performance of his duty V. Ilyukhin has to oversee legality within KGB organs. But he saw nothing illegal in the activity of the committee's leaders during the putsch. Of course, let us not be naive: It is not a question of observing legality, but of common-or-garden political intrigue, a desire to "win renown" under cover of "legality."

Let me inform you that, after receiving these "instructions" yesterday, I personally took them back to the general prosecutor. The USSR Prosecutor's Office was perfectly well aware of the absurdity of the charges brought against M.S. Gorbachev even before the PRAVDA article joined the fray. The general prosecutor abrogated as illegal the resolution which the newspaper has cited at length. I think he did right.

Given the already tense situation in society, everyone, particularly the dominant influences in the mass media must ponder what effect our words have. And show responsibility to the state, to readers, and to civic conscience and not help circulate something that has been

said for provocation's sake. It is not enough merely to pick at society's wounds, they must be healed.

From the Editorial Office

As we expected, the report that criminal proceedings have been brought against the USSR president met with a disparate reaction. Admittedly, only from readers. Their numerous telephone calls indicate that three positions can be clearly discerned here.

Some unconditionally support V. Ilyukhin's viewpoint.

Others are convinced that the USSR president has nothing to do with this, the existing Constitution and legislation are outdated, and so the republics are, therefore, entitled to decide for themselves whether to leave the Union or stay, notwithstanding any transitional periods or other legal "formalities."

A third group of readers—perhaps, the smallest—backing neither of the conflicting parties, is trying to grasp the crux of the conflict and produce a legal assessment of it. These readers agree that in a democratic state all citizens should, first, be equal before the law and their guilt or innocence proven in accordance with legally prescribed procedure—be they president or janitor. Second, every citizen must have access to original information and not to surrogate information doled out by the authorities. And, third and last, they see freedom of the press in newspapers being able to publish any information regardless of whether anyone likes it or not, provided that this information does not come under the restrictions stipulated in the Law on the Press.

In short, everything is fine with pluralism among our readers. The statement that N. Trubin, USSR general prosecutor, issued to TASS and V. Bakatin's letter that we are publishing today indicate that the organs of authority have also taken up a clear stance. Admittedly, there are grounds for argument if we remove the emotion and ambition from this stance and effectively speak from the legal viewpoint. But I think that this is a matter for professional lawyers rather than journalists.

But it was certain mass media that were surprising. To use a legal term they backed the powers that be a priori without looking at V. Ilyukhin's resolution on bringing criminal proceedings, without talking to him, and without hearing the opinion of legal experts on this conflict and immediately churned out compromising material against V. Ilyukhin, accusing him of all the deadly sins—ranging from professional incompetence [nesostoyatel'nost'] to backing the State Committee for the State of Emergency and provoking another anticonstitutional putsch. PRAVDA also ended up on the receiving end at the same time, having been the first (perhaps, that's the root of it) to announce V. Ilyukhin's decision.

It will be recalled that at one time we journalists suffered most from the opinion imposed on us by Staraya Ploshchad [CPSU Central Committee Headquarters], when

we were forced to produce abuse or plaudits without being allowed to study primary sources. Many people forged a career out of these slogans "Down with..." or "I approve!" So, are we seeing a return to the time of the kind of freedom of the press when this freedom consisted in unthinkingly backing the opinion held by those "leading and directing"?

I would not like to think so...

Therefore PRAVDA, keeping its independent position, will nonetheless continue the discussion of what can now be said to be the "Ilyukhin case." In the next few editions we intend to allow him to state his case, along with the lawyers who will give a legal evaluation of the decision to bring criminal proceedings against the USSR president.

Bakatin Remarks on 'Intelligence Agents'

LD1011210291 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1837 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] The number of Soviet intelligence agents working abroad will be reduced by at least half. Vadim Bakatin, who has been appointed head of the interrepublican security services, stated this in his interview to THE NEW YORK TIMES. He adds that the number of people employed under his immediate command will be reduced by 90%. Bakatin refuses to state the total number of Soviet agents abroad, but says that they will be completely withdrawn from certain countries. He explains that these measures were prompted by purely economic reasons. We do not have the means to maintain this enormous apparatus Bakatin says.

Barannikov Gives Briefing on Internal Affairs

LD1111090591 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Nov 91 Second Edition p 3

[TASS correspondent V. Gondusov report: "V. Barannikov on Reforming the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs"]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Nov—Reform of the internal affairs organs will be carried out within a tight time frame and under complex operational circumstances, USSR Minister of Internal Affairs Viktor Barannikov stated today at a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists.

The aim of the reforms is to increase the autonomy and responsibility of the republics' ministries of internal affairs. Functions like the coordination of the operations of republic ministries, situations analysis, exchange of experience, and rendering methodological and other aid will remain under USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] jurisdiction. The USSR MVD will operate within the limits of the agreements signed by the republics' ministers of internal affairs.

The minister singled out the MVD's work in coordinating the fight against grave crimes and especially grave crimes. A wave of crime has hit the country and is a real force capable of blocking economic and democratic

transformations, he said. It has reached dangerous proportions and recognizes no borders. There is a pressing need to create an information bank for the republic MVD's, without which criminal investigations and the search for criminals are impossible.

The minister dwelt in detail on the problems of reorganizing the USSR MVD Internal Troops. He informed journalists that troops units and formations are being reassigned to the sovereign republics. In particular, military units and subunits guarding correctional labor establishments and escorting prisoners in transit, and also special motorized militia battalions designed to protect public order are being transferred to their jurisdiction. These are the Internal Troops' principal forces, numbering more than 230,000 men. Command and control of these forces has been given to the republic MVD's.

Units of operational subordination, which number more than 70,000 men, and also units guarding the most important facilities, remain under Union jurisdiction. The former will constitute the Interrepublic Internal Troops, which will be employed to resolve conflicts in "hot spots," and also to aid republics to maintain public order in emergency situations, when the resources of the regional internal affairs organs are clearly insufficient. The question of placing these troops under the jurisdiction of the USSR State Council is being discussed.

An interrepublic Council of Internal Affairs Ministers, which will be assigned the task of settling questions of principle, is also being set up, Viktor Barannikov said in conclusion.

Oleynikov on KGB's Role in Coup Attempt

LD1111222391 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2010 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] A commission has concluded the top leaders of the State Security Committee, the KGB, had been preparing the August failed coup in the Soviet Union since last December. The commission investigated what officials and troops of the KGB were doing during the abortive coup.

First Vice Chairman of the has-been KGB Anatoliy Oleynikov has filled in newsmen on inquiry results. The key role was played by former Committee Chairman Kryuchkov who is now under arrest. Anatoliy Oleynikov described Kryuchkov as a man with a broad international outlook but obsessed by a policy pursued from olden times, a policy of force. This was his credo and this, too, cost him the tragic outcome, said Anatoliy Oleynikov.

Kryuchkov's banking on force drew the Soviet Union in the Afghan adventure and pushed his committee to take part in the Lithuanian events last January and stage the August coup.

The law on emergency in the Soviet Union seems to have been the first step towards the conspiracy. Anatoliy Oleynikov called attention to how Kryuchkov had pushed the law.

The evidence collected shows that the conspirators saw a great role for the KGB in removing the national president from power. Kryuchkov himself supervised the operation. On 15 August a KGB group arrived in the Crimea where the president was on holiday and hours before the coup left Gorbachev's Foros dacha without any means of communication. Other KGB groups conducted an unlawful surveillance of the Russian president and other democratic politicians.

Anatoliy Oleynikov said the coup makers had drawn a detailed plan but many KGB rank and file men and units refused to obey it. Frankly, while preparing the coup its makers obviously overlooked the moral atmosphere at the KGB. In principle, both the rank and file and middle level commanders supported the democratic changes in society. Anatoliy Oleynikov said that to his mind the coup makers saw the democratic changes as a threat to their own power. They miscalculated when they banked on the people's obedience.

BBC Documentary Reveals More on Coup Attempt

LD1111172791 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1630 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Many Soviet television viewers have already seen the documentary, "The Second Russian Revolution" made by BBC Television. Viewers of the serial will learn many unexpected, even sensational, facts. One of these has been reported by the DANA-PRESS [Kazakh] news agency, pre-empting the showing of the film, with reference to competent sources. The episode will, possibly, be as follows:

Literally three weeks before the putsch, on 29 July, there was an absolutely private meeting in Moscow between Gorbachev, Yeltsin, and Nazarbayev. During the conversation, and in order to speed up more radical reform, Yeltsin and Nazarbayev suggested that the USSR president carry out a fundamental reshuffle of staff at the highest level of power. The eight future putschists were among the names of the leaders Yeltsin and Nazarbayev gave as needing to be replaced immediately. Yeltsin expressed the fear that their conversation might be recorded by the KGB but this made Gorbachev puzzled, even indignant. However, as later events were to show, to all appearances, Yeltsin was correct. That the conversation between the three presidents did become known to the KGB was probably one of the factors that accelerated the coup.

DANA-PRESS states that viewers will be able to see this episode in one of the parts of the serial still to come.

Pro-Coup Demonstration Held on 2 Nov

*PM1111101991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 6 Nov 91 First Edition p 5*

[Major A. Petrov report under "Direct Line" rubric: "There Was No Storm at 'Seamen's Rest'"]

[Text] Moscow—On 1 November a RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY report came in concerning a demonstration planned for 2 November in support of the State Committee for the State of Emergency. It pointed out the time and place of the meeting for the supporters of the putschists: noon at the Sokolniki subway station. From there the demonstrators intended to go to the solitary confinement block, popularly known as "Seamen's Rest," where the members of the Committee for the State of Emergency under investigation are being detained.

I was at the subway station at exactly noon. I must admit that I expected to see a large gathering of people—it was a demonstration after all—but in actual fact there were two small—by Manege Square standards, that is—groups of people at the very top of the avenue leading to Sokolniki Park. I approached the larger one. But no, these were people getting a kick out of a game of on-the-spot lottery called "Start." But the second group of people, the smaller one, really did turn out to be the demonstration promised in the news report.

Moving ahead, I will say that it went on for around an hour and did not involve more than about 50 participants, including its organizers and journalists. Passersby and those who had gathered at the appointed place through conviction represented two irreconcilable camps: supporters and opponents of the State Committee for the State of Emergency. Protesting that they were right, they argued till they were hoarse. And toward the end, when all the verbal arguments had dried up, things almost came to a scuffle. Crying "You must not tarnish Yeltsin's reputation!", one of the supporters of the Russian president threw herself on an opponent, a woman holding a banner in support of the State Committee for the State of Emergency. Fortunately the situation was defused.

One way or another, only a few people went to the "Seamen's Rest"—in line with the original scenario. Basically, these were the initiators of the demonstration. In a word, there was no storm at the "Seamen's Rest."

Security Service, Tajik KGB Sign Agreement

*LD1111221591 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1805 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[Text] Moscow, 11 Nov (TASS)—An agreement was signed in Moscow today on the main lines of cooperation and interaction in defending the vital interests of the parties and strengthening collective security between the Interrepublican Security Service and the KGB of Tajikistan, the Interrepublican Security Service public relations center reports. The agreement was signed by

Vadim Bakatin, head of the Interrepublican Security Service, and Anatoliy Stroykin, authorized representative of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan, chairman of the republican KGB.

Security Service, Moldova Sign Protocol

*LD1011194291 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1500 GMT 10 Nov 91*

[Text] Moscow, 10 Nov (TASS)—A protocol of intent on the main directions of cooperation and interaction between the Interrepublican Security Service [Mezhrepublikanskaya Sluzhba Bezopasnosti] and the Ministry of National Security of Moldova was signed here on 9 November by Vadim Bakatin and Anatol Plugaru, the leaders of these departments. The public relations center of the Interrepublican Security Service, one of the bodies set up during the reorganization of the State Committee for Security [KGB] of the USSR, reported this today.

The protocol is based upon the declaration of independence of the republic of Moldova and the Economic Community Treaty of the sovereign states and takes account of the reorganization of the USSR Committee for State Security and the formation of the bodies of republican national security.

Decree Confirms Delegation for Estonian Talks

*LD1011132991 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1309 GMT 10 Nov 91*

[Text] Moscow, 10 Nov (TASS)—A USSR presidential decree "On the composition of a state delegation of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] for negotiations with the Republic of Estonia" was circulated here today. In accordance with a decision made by the USSR State Council on 6 September, Mikhail Gorbachev has confirmed the state delegation for the Union of the SSR for negotiations with the Republic of Estonia. Anatoliy Sobchak, member of the Political Consultative Council attached to the USSR president and mayor of St. Petersburg, will head the delegation.

Falin Denies CPSU Funded Western Communists

*LD1011094591 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0908 GMT 10 Nov 91*

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Chistyakov]

[Text] Bonn, 10 Nov (TASS)—The international section of the CPSU Central Committee did not take part in financing the activities of communist parties in Western countries. This statement was made by Valentin Falin, former leader of the pertinent subdivision of the party's Central Committee, in an interview he recorded for Hessen radio. He resolutely refuted reports on this subject which have appeared in the Soviet media and have caused quite a stir in the West, reports according to which the CPSU leadership transferred large sums of money abroad.

Not a kopeck was transferred abroad during my time as the Central Committee international affairs secretary, Falin said. At the same time he disagreed with the claim that the CPSU is partly responsible for the present crisis in the Soviet Union. According to Falin, the party has not had any part in decisionmaking on the main issues of domestic and foreign policy for the past two years.

TASS Carries Press Reviews

For 9 Nov

LD0911084191 Moscow TASS in English
0702 GMT 9 Nov

["Soviet Press Review"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow November 9 TASS—All newspapers give coverage to the celebration of the 74th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

"People throughout the country, from Moscow to the most outlying districts as well as all the way to the most sovereign republics did not maintain silence on November 7," the RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA newspaper reports.

PRAVDA reports that a mass demonstration of the working people was held on Moscow's Red Square. A meeting began with observing a minute of silence to honour the memory of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin. What brought people to the country's main square, the newspaper queries. An answer to this question, the newspaper writes, can be found in slogans inscribed on banners carried by the people: "Let's uphold social guarantees gained by the October Revolution", "No to privatisation", "The liberalisation of prices is a robbery in broad daylight".

PRAVDA draws the conclusion: "More socialism, more democracy" is the essence of the launched perestroika drive. Drifting away from this essence may prove to be disastrous to the renewal of our society on truly democratic and human principles."

The independent NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA newspaper describes the demonstration as "the first mass opposition communist demonstration in Moscow" following Yeltsin's decree to ban the activity of the Soviet Communist Party on the territory of the Russian Federation.

Supporters of the coalition of Moscow's democratic forces assembled on Lubyanka Square under the slogan "Forgive us, crucified Russia". A mourning meeting "to commemorate all who died on the fronts of internecine wars, all who were tortured to death in camps, prisons and exile, all of the murdered innocent people," RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA writes.

The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA observes that according to a plan of the meeting's organisers, "each anniversary of the coup of October 1917 should become

a day of remembrance of incalculable victims of the 70-year-old civil war on our land."

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes how the anniversary of the October Revolution was observed in St. Petersburg, a city of three revolutions. Residents of this city celebrated the restoration of the city's pre-revolutionary name. "Most of the citizens did not sort out what they were observing—day of the city or Revolution Day. People got so tired of life that they rejoiced even at this ill-organised but costly feast in the midst of sorrow," the newspaper observes.

The press informs readers that the anniversary of the October Revolution was celebrated both in republics and in the country's cities. Newspapers point out the modest nature of the festivities, reporting about facts of confrontation and clashes between participants in demonstrations. "We observed this day as we could do it," KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA notes.

Mass media continues to comment on Russian President Boris Yeltsin's decree to ban and dissolve the Communist Party on the territory of the Russian Federation. PRAVDA, pointing out that the president's actions are not authorised by law: "One needs not speak about the legal aspect of the decree. Evidently, the president can do everything but the choice of the moment to affix the signature of a statesman to this document speaks for itself."

"Without waiting for any clarifications and, evidently, not needing them, President Yeltsin, who concentrated legislative, executive and judicial authority in one person, banned and dissolved by his decree the Communist Party on the territory of the Russian Federation, having timed this event for the Revolution Day holiday," SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes.

Emphasising the inaction of the party's leadership, who could have launched a protest against the authorities' actions at all court institutions, the newspaper stresses that its behaviour showed that the party had clearly deserved its inglorious end.

In an interview with SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, Amangeldiy Tuleyev, Russian people's deputy and chairman of the Kemerovo Regional Council, said Yeltsin's reform programme unveiled by him at the Congress of Russian People's Deputies, would not work. Referring to the announced move to free prices, Tuleyev said: "This is a deliberate blow aimed at undermining the health of the population, the nation. Therefore, I am categorically against an increase in prices."

Commenting on additional powers granted to the Russian president by the congress, Tuleyev said "the president's extra powers mean that the Supreme Soviet will toe the president's line and his role will be minimal. The Russian congress and parliament will have the same fate that befell the union bodies. Only executive power remains in this case and a state of emergency is actually

declared. The president's rights and powers are unlimited and only a child cannot fail to understand that actually it is super-dictatorship."

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA comments on first appointments in the new Russian Government. Characterising the key figures in the government, it writes: "If the formation of the cabinet is completed the way it was started, Russia will for the first time get a team of liberals in the government, who consider themselves the followers of Friedrich von Hajek and the Chicago School, the architects of successful reforms in Poland, Hungary and Chile."

Newspapers give broad coverage to the summit of the 16 member-states of the North Atlantic alliance held in Rome from November 7 to 8. PRAVDA, commenting on the summit's decisions, emphasises "the NATO's activity was modified on an unprecedented scope at the Rome meeting. Not only did the summit proclaim the new strategy that rules out the very principle of confrontation, it embarked on the course of cooperation with its former adversaries from behind the 'iron curtain'."

For 11 Nov

LD1111091791 Moscow TASS in English
0651 GMT 11 Nov 91

["PRAVDA Review"—TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow November 11 TASS—Today's PRAVDA for the first time carries commercial advertisements in place of the habitual reference to the key article of the issue. The editorial board explains such an approach by the need to "survive" under new conditions of self-supporting mode of operation with its "stringent laws".

The situation in the Chechen-Ingush Republic is the major domestic topic. Under the rubric "Dispatches From Flashpoints" the newspaper carries a column of reports illustrated with photographs from the republic.

A dispatch from Grozny says in particular that Dzharkhar Dudayev was sworn in as the first president of the Chechen Republic. In a TASS interview the 47-year-old reserve general reaffirmed his standpoint that the question as to whether "Chechnia joins Russia or not may and must be decided only by the people themselves through a referendum". "Chechen people do not want confrontation with anyone," he stated.

The newspaper reports that the Presidium of the Russian Federation's parliament, at its special meeting, passed a judgement that the Russian president's decree on the imposition of a state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic conforms to the Constitution and laws of the Russian Federation.

"We have no opposition today, all differences and hurt feelings are forgotten," the aide to President Dzharkhar Dudayev, Ilyas Zamayev, told PRAVDA. "We have found ourselves united in the face of intervention", he said in a blitz-interview, and added that not a single

provision of the state of emergency imposed in the Chechen-Ingush Republic by the Russian president's order is conformed to. Moreover, a total mobilization of volunteers has been announced in the entire North Caucasian region "to defend the Chechen revolution" by decision of the parliament of the Confederation of Mountainous Peoples.

PRAVDA notes with alarm that armed confrontation between the Georgian and Ossetian sides in South Ossetia is becoming uncontrolled. Citing reports from the South Ossetian Information Committee's press centre, the newspaper says that bombardment of Tskhinvali outskirts and residential areas in the Tskhinvali and Znauri Districts continued last night.

"A new Russian Government is being formed," PRAVDA says in its report about the latest appointments made by Boris Yeltsin: Economists Yegor Gaydar and Aleksandr Shokhin have been appointed the first two vice-premiers of the Russian Government in charge of implementing reforms and the government's economic policy across the Republic. The first will head a team to implement the new reform programme, the second will be in charge of the socio-economic module in the government.

The regular feature "On Farming Without Optimism" raises a number of problems in the development of agriculture and discusses ways out of the crisis. The newspaper says that of 30,000 farmers registered in the country, only 1,500 to 2,000 are working effectively. Analyzing the low productivity of farming at this stage, PRAVDA says most Soviet farmers lack adequate knowledge and professional qualifications. Other factors undermining the efficiency of farming, PRAVDA notes, are the absence of laws on the farmer's rights and small-scale agricultural equipment.

"Only eight per cent of Soviet citizens believe that the militia can cope," Soviet People's Deputy Yuriy Golik charges in PRAVDA, citing the results of a poll conducted by the USSR Goskomstat jointly with the USSR Interior Ministry in Soviet republics, excepting Georgia. A total of 80,000 people were polled.

Moscow and St. Petersburg respondents are even more pessimistic, with a mere five percent saying the militia can cope. Another alarming figure is that only 61.7 per cent of those polled said they felt safe at home at night. Outside their homes, only 34 per cent of those polled felt safe in public places, 30.4 in public transport and 22 per cent in the street. Golik voices concern over the worsening criminogenic situation, explaining it by growing corruption inside state structures, including law enforcement.

PRAVDA reports about the split in the democratic camp. "The Democratic Russia Movement that brought Boris Yeltsin to power has developed a crack," the newspaper says about the Narodnoye Soglasie (Popular

Accord) bloc [decision] to break away from the Democratic Russia Movement and establish a coalition of Democratic Forces of Russia.

"Our credo is 'Plants and factories to workers', 'Land to peasants', 'Power to soviets'", Ukrainian People's Deputy Aleksandr Moroz said about the objectives of a new party that is now being set up. He spoke in the capacity of the chairman of the Socialist Party which hopes to infuse new substance in these slogans with priority given to collective property. The party will speak out against "people's alienation from the means of production, uncontrolled unemployment and alienation of people from power". "We are for working people," Moroz said.

The founding congress of the Socialist Party of Workers and Peasants was held at the village of Kamenuki of Belorussia's Kamenetskiy District, the newspaper reports. It was attended by 46 delegates from the Ukraine, Belorussia, Moscow, St. Petersburg, some regions of the Russian Federation and the Dnestr Moldavian Republic.

The congress adopted the party's programme and rules and elected its leading bodies. The main aims of the new party are to "restore working people's power in the country by non-violent methods, to revive a socialist planned economy, preserve and consolidate the collective and state farm system in the countryside, saturate the market with cheap, high-quality products". The party's political plan proposes the re-establishment of the full power of councils workers', peasants' and army deputies, an end to inter-ethnic strife and the revival of the Soviet Union as a single multi-national socialist state.

Commenting on the recent NATO summit in Rome, PRAVDA says: "NATO's decisions made in Rome, will certainly call for an extensive in-depth analysis. But their overall positive charge is clear already, as well as are moments that cause apprehension".

The newspaper carries an interview with Roelof Botha about the results of his visit to the USSR, in which the minister praises cooperation potential between the Soviet Union and South Africa in trade and economic, as well as scientific and cultural spheres.

In assessing the present state of relations between the two countries, Botha noted that they have got off to a constructive start. Economic interaction between South Africa and the USSR needs a deep study, he said but added that he was confident that the two countries stood to become richer from cooperation with each other.

The newspaper's international section carried reports about the situation in Yugoslavia and the country's reaction to economic sanctions imposed by the European Communities. PRAVDA also covers the situation in the Middle East, the Middle East peace conference in Madrid and preparations for the presidential elections in the United States.

For 12 Nov

LD1211083391 Moscow TASS in English
0801 GMT 12 Nov 91

["Press Review"—TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow November 12 TASS—The press highlights the events in the Chechen-Ingush Republic. Newspapers comment on the Russian parliament resolution which virtually annuls President Boris Yeltsin's decree, dated November 7, 1991, on the imposition of a state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic.

"The uncivilised way to assert statehood by fire and sword is apparently far from being consigned to the archives of history. It still has too many adherents", KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (RED STAR) newspaper emphasises.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA (THE INDEPENDENT GAZETTE) believes that "the Chechen crisis is the first serious test of strength for the Russian state".

The newspaper writes: "It seems that hopes that the Russian leadership, unlike the Union one, will pursue an adroit, prudent and future-oriented nationalities policy, thought out in every detail and taking into account all factors (religious, historical, natural, psychological, etc.) have not been realised".

The Russian president's decree "radically changed the alignment of political forces in Checheno-Ingushetia," the newspaper writes.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA frontpaged without comment a telephone interview with General Dzhokhar Dudayev, president of the Chechen Republic, who stressed that the Russian Parliament decision not to support Yeltsin's decree "is one of the most [words indistinct] triumphs won by the democratic forces of Russia and its parliament".

"The country is experiencing the most serious crisis. Its disintegration is in progress," Miroslav Buzhkevich writes in PRAVDA. The country is now in a time scramble: One more procrastination or an erroneous move and there will be no hope left to rescue the country and peoples inhabiting it, the analyst observes.

Buzhkevich believes that "only actions, based on mutual trust, coordinated, well-considered and devoid of personal or localist ambitions, by participants in a new Union would prevent a disaster".

PRAVDA carries a two-page insert dealing with stock market business, reporting Kazakhstan's first law on stock markets, a visit to the Moscow-based Interrepublican Commodity Exchange by delegations of U.S. businessmen, and writing about traditions of Russian merchants and quoting prices at domestic and foreign exchanges.

In PRAVDA, there is an interview with Viktor Ilyukhin, former chief of the Inspectorate of the USSR Procurator's Office for the supervision of the enactment of state security laws, who decided to institute criminal proceedings against the president of the USSR.

This step, Ilyukhin said, "is not a decision made on the spur of the moment but is the outcome of long and bitter meditations".

"Both as citizen and lawyer, I could no longer watch how law was being trampled upon at all levels. I could no longer tolerate the attitude of the country's leadership to the Constitution and to law in general", he said.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper, commenting on the founding congress of a Communist Party—the first party of many being formed on the foundation of the CPSU—in St. Petersburg on November 8, points out that the congress endorsed the name for the party—"The All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks".

"The living reality is that a left-wing radical party has emerged in the present-day political arena," the newspaper writes.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries the first interview given to TASS by Colonel-General Ilya Kalinichenko, chairman of the Committee for the Guarding of the State Borders of the USSR and commander-in-chief of joint frontier forces.

The general pointed out in particular that border troops "are changing over to the guarding of the border on treaty-based relations determined by the Union and sovereign republics (states).

"Provisional agreements have already been concluded with the Baltic states, the Ukraine, Moldavia and Belorussia on the functioning of frontier forces and units on their territories pending the conclusion of inter-state treaties on borders".

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA runs an article by Grigoriy Atamanchuk, Dr. of science (law). "The tragedy is that we have lost state administration at the Union level and have not acquired it at the republican one either," Atamanchuk believes.

The INDEPENDENT GAZETTE carries an interview with Larisa Piyasheva, an economist, who was appointed deputy general director of the mayor's department. She believes that "everything should be privatised in Moscow by February 1."

In two months' time not a single state-run shop, cafe, a dining-room, a workshop or every-day service establishment should remain in Moscow. All taxi parks, restaurants, vegetable storage depots, etc. shall be privatised, Piyasheva emphasised.

Academician Oleg Bogomolov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences' Institute for International Economic and Political Studies and member of the Consultative Council to the President of Russia, dwells in TRUD on the new economic course set out in Boris Yeltsin's address to the people and parliament. The academician said he fully supports and shares the main aspects of the Yeltsin policy of radical and speedy reforms.

V. Rudenko, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's correspondent shares ideas prompted by the recent visits of Soviet air squadrons to Britain and Sweden. He concludes that "air pilots get to understand one another more quickly than politicians".

"Much will be effaced from our memory with time but the air bridge built by Soviet aces to Europe will remain," the correspondent points out.

Marshal of the Air Force Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, Soviet minister of defence, in an interview before his departure for Bonn, said that soldiers would serve for one and a half years and that the Ministry of Defence was switching over to a self-supporting basis.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries an interview with Rear-Admiral Robert Topping, defence attache at the U.S. Embassy in the Soviet Union, and quotes him as saying that he is "an advocate of dynamic stability".

Sharing his impressions of meetings and talks with Soviet people, Topping said "we had very interesting, substantive and frank meetings. I think that military leaders of your country strive for dynamic stability. As a physicist, I like this term".

The situation in Yugoslavia remains the principal foreign topic in today's newspapers.

Economic

National Economy Management Committee Meets

LD1111105591 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0912 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Nov (Tass)—The USSR's hard currency situation is on the agenda of the meeting of the Committee for the Operational Management of the Country's National Economy which began this morning.

It was decided to consider the matter of the hard currency situation by the committee, particularly after the 5 November sitting of the government at which the issue of the USSR's hard currency reserves for the month of November was discussed. It was stated at the sitting then that "Emergency circumstances have taken shape with regard to meeting current payments and current debts," and the deficit in the country's hard currency

resources for November may comprise no less than 1 billion rubles [R] in free, convertible currency.

The TASS correspondent was informed before the sitting began that the USSR's foreign debt today comprises R47-48 billion in free convertible currency, without taking into account the R17-18 billion debt to the former socialist countries (talks have not yet been completed on this part of the debt). At the same time the total owed to the Soviet Union comprises R94 billion.

External Debt Reported

OW1211061991 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1630 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Committee for the Operational Management of the National Economy (COMNE) is meeting behind closed doors on Monday [11 November] to discuss the monetary situation in the country.

IF's [INTERFAX] correspondent reports that the Soviet Union's external debt is now at 47.2 billion "hard currency" rubles (about 81 billion dollars according to the official exchange rate), of which the greater part has been formed during the past 6 years. This sum does not include the USSR's debt to socialist countries, estimated at 17-18 billion rubles.

Foreign nations owe to the Soviet Union an estimated 94.332 billion rubles, which sum is hard to calculate in dollars since with most ex-socialist countries (except Hungary and Czechoslovakia) the Soviet Union has not yet concluded appropriate agreements.

At present, former socialist nations are responsible for 47 billion rubles' share of debt, and the rest (also 47 billion) is to be paid off by "Third World" countries.

Viktor Gerashchenko, head of the USSR State Bank, has described the present financial situation as difficult, but observed that it is rather a result of the "internal economic chaos," i.e., the inter-republican differences with regard to their approach to hard currency payments. He called for setting up a single center to regulate the Soviet Union's monetary problems.

Import Terms Simplified

LD0311092391 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1633 GMT 2 Nov 91

[Text] Moscow, Nov 2 (TASS)—The terms for the import of essential goods to the USSR have been made considerably easier. Information on steps to turn Soviet customs policy toward improving supplies to the public of food, medicine, and other goods has come from the USSR Committee for the Operational Management of the National Economy.

With the agreement of the governments of the sovereign republics, the Committee has decided, in particular, to exempt food from customs duties and import tax as well

as medicine, equipment for the food industry, equipment for private and ancillary farms, and raw and other materials for light industry. Existing restrictions on the brokering of imports by all enterprises and organizations registered within the USSR for foreign trade have been repealed: they are allowed to import merchandise for subsequent sale on the domestic market for rubles.

It has also been ruled that items imported by citizens into the USSR for personal use shall be exempt from customs duties. Value ceilings for duty-free import by citizens of gifts have also been repealed. In addition, the Soviet and foreign currency quota for unhindered export by Soviet citizens temporarily leaving the country has been raised to 1,000 rubles (without the right to exchange or spend it abroad) and 1,000 U.S. dollars (or an equivalent sum).

Silayev Comments After Meeting

LD1111195291 Moscow TASS in English
1935 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS commentator Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow November 11 TASS—Ivan Silayev, head of the Soviet Committee for the Management of the National Economy, described as "very grave" the currency situation in the Soviet Union, commenting on results of today's meeting of the committee on this issue.

Silayev said the committee members considered the information given by representatives of the Soviet Foreign Economic Bank, the State Bank of the USSR, Ministries of Foreign Economic Relations and Finance, and other experts.

"The committee members were not completely satisfied with the given information," he noted. In Silayev's words, representatives of the republics would like to "hear more details" about how the country's foreign debt has formed, what the debt's components are and in which major directions the credits were used.

He also described as "rather poor" the information on possibilities of currency revenues.

The committee head said the experts were instructed to "prepare comprehensive information" on all issues concerning the currency situation in the country by the next meeting of the committee scheduled for November 13.

He also noted the committee members "were not satisfied" with approximate figures of the Soviet foreign debt (47-48 billion foreign currency roubles) and the over 90 billion foreign currency rouble debt of foreign states to the Soviet Union, cited at the meeting. He explained it by the fact that these figures were taken from various sources and calculated in various currency units—roubles, hard currency and foreign currency roubles.

The experts have also been instructed to submit by November 13 "comprehensive and convincing amounts

in U.S. dollars" of the Soviet foreign debt and the debt of foreign states to the Soviet Union.

Silayev stressed the committee members discussed "with partiality" debts of foreign countries. They put forward a number of proposals on ways to receive the overdue debts. The committee head noted "debts of foreign states exceed the Soviet foreign debt".

Silayev said the committee members called for the creation of a body to coordinate issues connected with the currency situation in the country. The participation of foreign experts in this body is possible.

The committee head did not exclude the possibility of sales of a part of foreign countries' debt to the Soviet Union at the world market as one of the ways to solve the currency problem. Asked about the expediency of pawning part of the Soviet gold stock to foreign banks, Silayev stressed "we are not in a hurry to take this extreme measure".

Another Moscow meeting with representatives of the "Seven" financial bodies is scheduled for November 17, Silayev said. "There is hope we will agree on the postponement of debt payments. It will 'untie our hands' to implement the reforms and solve such problems as the food one," noted the head of the Soviet Committee for the Management of the National Economy.

Silayev Remarks on Debt, 17 Nov G-7 Meeting

OW1211005491 Moscow INTERFAX in English
2125 GMT 11 Nov 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report" for "November 12, 1991"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Committee for Economic Management, its chairman, Ivan Silayev, announced that the leaders of the sovereign republics would meet with the finance ministers of the G-7 countries on November 17. Mr. Silayev said that "there is hope that an agreement will be reached deferring the payment of Soviet debts, a development which would enable us to then turn our attention to economic reform." At their meeting at the end of October, the sovereign republics had signed a memorandum in which they confirmed their full responsibility for their foreign debt, and pledged themselves to establish a mechanism for servicing the debt. However, Mr. Silayev expressed regret that "the republics that sought to take individual steps" to resolve the foreign debt problem. [sentence as received] He said that efforts on the part of individual republics would accomplish nothing, although he was confident that they would act "in close cooperation".

Customs Restrictions Removed for Many Goods

LD1211011791 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1910 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Yuriy Soltys]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Nov (TASS)—From now on, a whole range of customs restrictions on the import of necessities from abroad has been removed. As Nikolay Yermakov, chairman of the USSR Customs Committee, stated at a news conference today, this has been done in order to fill the consumer market with goods. Thus, duties and taxes have been removed from the import of food, medicines, equipment for the food industry, raw and processed materials for light industry, and agricultural equipment for peasant farms.

Restrictions on the work of middlemen have also been lifted. Now any enterprise or organization can import goods not only for its own needs, but also for sale for rubles on the domestic market. There is no duty on gifts acquired abroad, however many, or on items for personal use, including cars. The procedure for sending items through the international post has also changed completely. Henceforth, as a rule, parcels going "over there" and coming "from over there" will not be opened. Packages worth up to \$40 will be allowed through without duty, which is two to three times the norm adopted abroad.

At the same time, customs duties of 300 to 600 percent of the value are introduced for export of certain consumer goods. Previously the specified goods were almost all banned from export. They can only be exported up to a value of 300 rubles. According to its chairman, the customs committee plans considerable expansion of the list of these goods in the future.

Interrepublic Economic Committee Meets

924A0170A Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA
in Russian 5 Nov 91 p 1

[Article by Aleksandr Krotkov, under the rubric "Our Commentary": "The Union Center: The Inheritance and the Heirs"]

[Text] Thirty-eight thousand officials from former ministries will be added to the currently growing army of unemployed. The question concerning the elimination of central departments was examined at a meeting of the Interrepublic Economic Committee under the chairmanship of Ivan Silayev.

In fact, the fate of the erstwhile omnipotent state structures was decided only on 28 October, when Boris Yeltsin declared that Russia is curtailing the financing of a majority of them, starting on 1 November. Perhaps, that is why the discussion of the question on 1 November was in the nature of a formality. They said, why discuss this in detail, when everything is clear in any case?.. Meanwhile, everything was far from clear to those who were assembled.

Thus, at one stroke, they were ready to decide the fate of the USSR reserve fund, but here the voice of protest could be heard. The holdout (and it more or less was Arkadiy Volskiy) said: We are talking about the mobilization funds in the event of war and for the future

harvest. Moreover, similar reserves were not maintained in many republics (such as Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Moldova)—based on considerations of the proximity of borders. And, now, the peasants there may not have fuel in the spring in order to sow wheat....

This information turned out to be absolutely new for a majority of those assembled, judging by their reaction, which, to put it mildly, is surprising. It turns out that the more serious questions were submitted for discussion without much prior preparation.

Representatives of the republics who assembled on 1 November for a meeting of the Interrepublic Economic Committee without stopping almost "killed" the USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation. And only after it was explained to them that aircraft of republic aviation companies simply will not be allowed abroad, because they are not yet registered with the international aviation register, and that representatives of Aeroflot will be evicted from foreign airports, and there will be nobody to service the aircraft, did the statesmen take compassion and grant a reprieve of the "death sentence" for the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

The USSR state depository under the People's Commissariat of Finances was less fortunate. It no longer exists. The fact is that all of the gold reserves of the empire are stored on the territory of Russia, which declared them its own on the grounds that all of the other gold extracting republics have for several months now refused to turn over the precious metal to the center. However, the wealth of the state was increased not only by it, but also by "black gold" and "white".... Tomorrow, its suppliers can demand a share of that residue that has not been scattered to the wind yet. I fear that such a turn of events will not improve the mutual relations between the former fraternal republics.

Russia's neighbors are already making claims to the equipment and personnel of the disbanded USSR KGB. But what will happen to the foreign representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs? And with the numerous clubs and Palaces of Culture of the now defunct Union Ministry of Culture?

When the division of a large inheritance occurs in haste and is conducted by guessing, then, as a consequence, property lawsuits inevitably arise, which by no means promotes kind feelings among relatives. I think that everyone understands the aspirations of the leaders of the newly formed sovereign states to resolve the question of the Union departments as soon as possible, because there is great work ahead of them—big reforms. However, the conduct of these reforms requires the caution of a jeweler and the detail of a bookkeeper.

Unfortunately, the reformers from the Interrepublic Economic Committee did not demonstrate these qualities in full measure 1 November.

Military

Shaposhnikov Comments on Unified Army Concept

PM1211092991 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 12 Nov 91 p 2

[Interview with USSR Defense Minister Ye. Shaposhnikov by KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA correspondent A. Krayniy; place and date not given: "Soldiers Will Serve 18 Months but Defense Ministry Is Switching to Economic Accountability. Our Correspondent's Interview With Marshal of Aviation Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov Before Flying to Bonn"]

[Text] [Krayniy] Yevgeniy Ivanovich, you have been a minister for two and a half months. I realize that's not a long time, but nonetheless what has been accomplished in that time?

[Shaposhnikov] Well, primarily the Army has been departyized and depoliticized. Needless to say, only the first few steps have been taken, but they are very important steps and without that we would not be able to make further progress. Organs of combat training to provide soldiers with a moral-psychological education are being set up to replace the disbanded military-political organs and in order to link the training process more closely with education.

On the Defense Ministry's initiative officers' pay has been raised.

[Krayniy] Was that hard?

[Shaposhnikov] No, on the contrary. But the decision to raise Soviet Army workers' and employees' wages was indeed hard. We formed a united front with the Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] and KGB, and the trade unions also helped out. It finally proved possible; our people—cooks, stokers, drivers, etc.—were, after all, receiving only a third as much pay as their counterparts in civilian life.

[Krayniy] Those are your achievements, Yevgeniy Ivanovich. What about the problems?

[Shaposhnikov] I am most concerned about unity in the Armed Forces. You will remember that some republics stated their resolve to set up their own armies based on our military districts. That would be catastrophic. Here's why. For decades the USSR's Army has been unified. It had a unified system of troop management and reserve training and a unified radar field, groups of forces were set up with no consideration for republic borders—the list can go on and on—but, in my view, everyone realizes that we cannot up and willfully remove any element from this quite well-ordered system, everything would come crashing down.

Of late, I have made many trips to the republics and have met with the three Transcaucasian presidents and with

Leonid Kravchuk, and 4 November everyone agreed at the State Council session that the Armed Forces must remain a unified organism.

[Krayniy] Have the republics given up the idea of forming their own armies?

[Shaposhnikov] Naturally, we were bound to take their interests into consideration. Republic guards will be set up in the republics based on the MVD's internal troops and those people who have already served in the Army will be able to serve in these guards—thus, there will be no clashes between the Union Army and the republics' guards. The USSR Defense Ministry will provide assistance with forming the republics' defense ministries. We will not only help with advice, but also with manpower. A Committee of Defense Ministers will then be set up to tackle general questions—staffing of the Armed Forces, the draft, and the forming of the military budget—when it meets once a month, and not necessarily in Moscow, moreover.

[Krayniy] Yevgeniy Ivanovich, what will a republic's Defense Ministry do on its own territory? There will, after all, still be the commander of a district under central jurisdiction there?

[Shaposhnikov] The republics' defense ministries control military commissariats and civil defense. And don't forget about the guard. Needless to say, they will receive the requisite information from the command of troops stationed in the republics and will take part in the work of army and district military councils.

[Krayniy] There are a host of questions in our mailbag about how long soldiers will serve and whether it is planned to switch to a professional army in the near future?

[Shaposhnikov] We decided at a State Council session that, as of next year, soldiers will do 18 months. As for a professional army, there will be a gradual transition. We will now switch to a combined principle of staffing for the time being.

[Krayniy] Excuse me, but what does that mean?

[Shaposhnikov] It means that soldiers who have done six months or people who have already been discharged into the reserve can submit an application and serve for money after concluding a contract with the Defense Ministry.

[Krayniy] Of course, soldiers in our country will soon be professionals. But what will happen to those who are already professionals today—the officers? You understand, after all, that increasing their pay will not resolve all the problems.

[Shaposhnikov] Housing is a question which gives me no rest either day or night. The number of homeless in the Union is being increased daily by the troops returning from Germany and Poland. You know how acute the question of the presence of our troops is for Lithuania. In

short, housing is the biggest headache. But even here there are grounds for cautious optimism. First, we hope that as the republics take the decision to preserve the single army, they will allocate housing to officers. After all, in recent years, as you probably know, local organs of power in most regions effectively ignored us. Second, I have issued an order on the allocation of apartment blocks in educational centers (and they exist in every district) to the homeless.

[Krayniy] But bearing in mind how many homeless officers we have, I am afraid that even this will not resolve the problem.

[Shaposhnikov] That is why the Defense Ministry is now creating a commercial center. We will be given the right to engage in foreign economic activity, that decision has already been made, and we ourselves will enter the world market. The Defense Ministry has things to offer. And the money earned this way, including hard currency, will be channelled into the solution of the housing problem.

[Krayniy] Are you not afraid of abuses?

[Shaposhnikov] No. We are carrying out an inventory of Armed Forces' property and we will place everything, down to the last nail, under strict monitoring. But the leader of this commercial center will be subordinated to me and the Defense Ministry collegium. Are we not being fleeced enough already? You know, people come along and say: We have been given land, we want to manage it, help us with equipment. We help them and a week later that equipment is being auctioned off at astronomical prices. It is time to close down that sales outlet. We will cooperate only with those organizations which work in the interests of the Armed Forces, like for example the Fund for the Social Protection of Young Servicemen.

[Krayniy] I understand your concern but nevertheless I would venture to note: Surely this is not the army's job—running a business.

[Shaposhnikov] Of course it is not. And at some time in the future we will free the army from functions not characteristic of it but right now we simply have no other means of survival. Incidentally, we will switch to economic accountability even during the gathering of the harvest. For example, an oblast asks for help and we say: Five vehicle battalions will cost you such and such. This year we tried working that way for the first time in the Moscow region. For a day's harvesting our soldiers received 20 rubles each, the officers about 50 rubles.

[Krayniy] One last question. What have I not asked you?

[Shaposhnikov] You have not asked whether the work of certain mass media pleases me as Defense Minister. It does not. And this is why. A host of unverified information is appearing in the press, or to put it more simply, rumors and fabrications. Is it so hard to phone our

information directorate and make inquiries? Recently General Gromov was made chief of the "Vystrel" courses...

[Krayniy] And where is he by the way?

[Shaposhnikov] Boris Vsevolodovich Gromov is currently not on the staff. I hope that in the near future his fate will be decided.

Official Remarks on Regional Armies Formation

PM0811150391 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 6 Nov 91 First Edition p 1

[Interview with A. Shchelkanov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union Commission for Armed Forces Affairs, by Captain Second Rank V. Urban 1 November; place not given: "'It Is Not Convenient for the Republics To Form Their Own Armies at This Stage'—A. Shchelkanov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union Commission for Armed Forces Affairs, Believes"]

[Text] Last week elections for leaders of the permanent parliamentary organs were held in the USSR Supreme Soviet. USSR People's Deputies Aleksandr Shchelkanov and Vladimir Stadnik became chairmen of the Soviet of the Union Commissions for Armed Forces Affairs and Security Questions, and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] People's Deputy Aleksandr Kotenkov was elected chairman of the Soviet of the Republics Commission for Security and Defense.

Today, St. Petersburg Deputy Aleksandr Shchelkanov answers questions put to him by our correspondent. He is 52, has served in the Navy, and is a captain first rank. He graduated from a shipbuilding institute and a military foreign languages institute. He was chairman of the Leningrad City Soviet Executive Committee for one year.

[Urban] Let me ask the most important questions first, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich. Is it possible to preserve unified Armed Forces?

[Shchelkanov] The commission will gear its work (according to preliminary discussions that have already taken place) to trying to preserve the unified Armed Forces. And furthermore, the paradox of the present situation is that the existing Armed Forces, it seems to me, are one of the very few elements capable of binding and cementing the structure of the Union, to give it its old name. It is on this basis that the political function of our commission emerges. What it means exactly is that we should move on from the preservation of unified Armed Forces to the formation of a new political community of sovereign states.

[Urban] A great deal is still being said about military reform. Certain projects were submitted to the former parliament. What is to become of them now? Have you seen a single document on military reform?

[Shchelkanov] Yes I have. The documents really have been elaborated.

[Urban] Do you have any?

[Shchelkanov] Yes. For example I have the draft law on the status of servicemen in my file.

[Urban] But that is a draft that was elaborated earlier. What about the concept of military reform?

[Shchelkanov] But what document has been elaborated precisely?

[Urban] A deputies-governmental commission was formed to carry out further work on the draft law on the status of servicemen.

[Shchelkanov] But if you remember, there were at least two commissions on all the important documents. The official, state one. And then one made up of the enthusiastic officers who were in the Supreme Soviet, and those who were not allowed into the Supreme Soviet, and they worked in parallel, so to speak. And sharp things were said on both sides and this includes in your newspaper. So there are documents that were elaborated by both sides. And everything must be completed.

Do you remember the resolution passed by the emergency session of the Supreme Soviet 26-30 August, when the USSR president was given the direct order to immediately submit documents on military reform to the next session—and this is the session that is now going on.

So that we need to act, and not talk about whether the drafts are ready or not.

[Urban] Incidentally, at the opening of the session, the Union president named the formation of a Union military budget as one of parliament's main tasks. Do you think that it will prove possible to collect a military budget?

[Shchelkanov] That is one of the most worrying questions, and before the elections for the chairman of the commission, I started my speech with this question. The situation is such that we do not have time to play around with far-reaching programs. Unfortunately today we must take one day at a time, working day by day....

And today the task is to preserve the Armed Forces that exist now. And provide the basic human necessities to allow them to carry on at least to the new year.

In general the question of the budget part of our commission's work is made up of three aspects. First of all, ensuring that the Army's vital functions are guaranteed until the new year. Second, the budget report for 1992. And third. We have a military program until the year 2000, and we also need to assess that. To what extent this Supreme Soviet, and this includes our commission, will suffice does not worry me. Urgent problems are more worrying. There are many of them. Several days ago the deputies received data from the statistics board on the

fulfillment of the Union budget in September. A total of 42 percent of the budget was spent on the Armed Forces. Here there was at least fulfillment in part. At the same time expenditure on other itemized needs does not exceed 8-10 percent. A request went out that itemized expenditure be explained; we must examine what was listed in the budget, what was fulfilled, and what was not.

[Urban] In order to study the situation?

[Shchelkanov] Not so much to study the situation but rather for the purposes of an economic assessment, in order to approach the last two months of this year—November and December—knowing what to feed the men with and how to support them. In a word, to prevent dissatisfaction in the army. Because that is terrible.

The next aspect. USSR Defense Minister Ye. Shaposhnikov is now returning from a tour of the republics (this conversation was held 1 November—author's note). I would like to meet with him for a conversation purely devoted to work and find out about the situation and his opinion on the republics' stances—whether they are in favor of the unity or division of the Armed Forces.

[Urban] And what can we expect from you?

[Shchelkanov] We already have our method of approach. We have discussed everything; it is no accident that the commission meets two or three times a day. And our method of approach is to try to show the republics, gently and without being overbearing, how disadvantageous, from three points of view—grand strategy, the budgetary-economic position, and the diplomatic position—it is for them to form their own armies at this stage.

Returning once again to the budget, we must not forget that there are now two commissions like ours. In the Soviet of the Republics there is the Commission on Security and Defense.

[Urban] Yes, you have the lower chamber. The Soviet of the Republics ratifies all the laws you adopt. What follows from this?

[Shchelkanov] What goes into the strictly budgetary part is their concern. We are obliged to analyze the program part of the budget—what is allocated for military needs, and expenditure item by item is envisaged. It is up to us to prove needs and insufficiencies as regards the budget. This goes to the republics, if you can put it like that. The Soviet of the Republics will adopt decisions on the budget.

[Urban] You have already touched on the commission's supervisory functions over the Armed Forces. Tell me, is that why the number of deputies performing active military service is restricted in the commission?

[Shchelkanov] The introduction of this measure is dictated by the desire of the whole chamber to avoid the

possibility of lobbying and the possibility of the servicemen's defending their departmental interests (after all, the commission has not been definitively formed).

Volkogonov on Reductions in Army Personnel

LD0911201591 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1630 GMT 9 Nov 91

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] Within the framework of military reform, the political bodies in the Soviet Army are being eliminated. New structures will be set up in their place for the moral and psychological training of personnel. As Dmitriy Volkogonov, commission chairman, noted in an interview with our correspondent, up to 45% of political officers will be made redundant.

[Begin recording] [S. Suntsov] [words indistinct] much concern regarding how and where these people will be found work.

[Volkogonov] At the same time, of course, the commission is examining how to provide the redundant people with pensions and housing. With regard to the junior officers, the former deputies of the political unit of companies and battalions, there is already an order by the Ministry of Defense to the effect that those who wish to serve, those who do not voluntarily leave the Army, are appointed assistants for educational work and assistants for personnel work.

[Suntsov] People are assuming that basically nothing will change from the fact that the political bodies will be abolished for a course of moral and psychological training. Little will change. So, what is the fundamental difference?

[Volkogonov] Well, first it is fundamental that no party will have a monopolistic influence. Second, these bodies will not be powerful. There will be no party elements in the activity of these bodies. They will be concerned with teaching allegiance to the soldier's duty, knowledge of military history, psychological stability, relationships within the team, and so forth. [end recording]

Servicemen May Ignore Criminal Military Orders

PM2510141791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Oct 91 Union Edition p 1

[Unattributed report from the "IZVESTIYA, TASS, INTERFAX, BALTFAX, POSTFACTUM, REUTERS" roundup]

[Text] According to changes to the USSR Armed Forces' disciplinary regulations proposed by the USSR Defense Ministry, criminal orders need not be carried out.

The draft USSR presidential decree—drawn up by the USSR Defense Ministry—"On Changes to the USSR Armed Forces' Disciplinary Regulations" also states:

"Servicemen who fail to carry out a legitimate order from a commander or who carry out a clearly criminal order will be responsible under the law."

Subunits Appeal for Better Living Conditions

*LD1211044491 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak
Network in Russian 2330 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[Text] The coordinating council of representatives of all the armed forces stationed in the Baltics and veterans of

the Soviet Army and Navy appealed to leaders and parliamentarians of the Baltic states, Russia, and the USSR. The appeal says that subunits of the USSR Armed Forces will not leave Baltic territory until normal social and living conditions are created at new posts. The position of the Supreme Soviet and the Government of Latvia has not been expressed, but (Belzensh), a member of the commission for foreign affairs of the Latvian Supreme Soviet, regards this appeal as gross interference in the internal affairs of independent states.

Baltic Affairs

Troops Refuse To Leave Baltics Due to Conditions

LD0911205991 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 2000 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] The Coordination Council of representatives of all arms of troops stationed in the Baltic and veterans of the Soviet Army and Navy have adopted an address to the leaders and parliaments of the Baltic states, Russia, and the USSR. The document says that until normal social and living conditions are created at their new postings, the subunits of the USSR Armed Forces will not leave Baltic territory. The address includes the ultimatum that all decisions on restationing be made only with the agreement of the Coordination Council.

No Withdrawal in 'Near Future'

LD121112391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1045 GMT 12 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Oleg Moskovskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 12 Nov (TASS)—"There is to be no planned withdrawal of Soviet troops from the Baltic states in the near future," a TASS correspondent was told today by a spokesman for the USSR Defense Ministry press center. He added that the question of withdrawing Soviet troops from the region "can be resolved only through talks between the governments of the USSR and the Baltic states." He was commenting on a press report that there has supposedly been a "withdrawal of a paratroop battalion from Estonia." The press center spokesman made it clear that a paratroop assault battalion stationed in Voru was disbanded a few days ago under a prior agreement with the Estonian Government. The personnel from that battalion have been reassigned to other units.

Most Favored Trading Status Granted by USSR

OW1111203791 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1930 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Nikolay Yermakov, chairman of the USSR Customs Committee, has told a news briefing at the committee that the Baltics are being granted a most favored trading status by the USSR: goods from the Baltics are imported in the USSR duty-free "According to international norms, we should have treated the Baltics as any other foreign state. But for the present we will not do that. We leave a "window" open so that Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania could enter the economic community of sovereign republics if they so wish", he noted. Mr. Yermakov does not fear that duty-free import of Baltic goods would encourage inexpensive export of goods from European countries to the USSR.

He also pointed out that along with the Russian Customs Service, about 50 customs posts on the border with the Baltics are being established. Mr. Yermakov made clear

that as soon as these posts are set up, the border control will virtually be exercised by the Russian Customs Committee.

Admission Into UN FAO Approved 11 Nov

LD1111221891 Moscow TASS in English 2150 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Nikolay Teterin]

[Text] Rome November 11 TASS—Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia were admitted today to the membership of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the 26th conference of which is under way in the Italian capital.

All participants in the conference unanimously voted for their admission, noted a report of the FAO press service circulated here today.

Thus, the FAO now involves 160 member-countries.

Interparliamentary Assembly Established 8 Nov

LD0911101591 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 0200 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] An interparliamentary assembly of the Baltic states was set up today [8 November] during a meeting of Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian parliamentarians in Tallinn. The Lithuanian delegation in Tallinn is led by Bronislovas Kuzmickas, deputy chairman of the Supreme Council.

The regulations of the interparliamentary assembly and the principles of work by the coordinating body were prepared. The Baltic assemblies will be convened twice a year. The first assembly session is scheduled for January 1992. It is also intended to set up six assembly committees: legal, social economy and economy, ecology and power engineering, communications, education, science and culture, and foreign relations.

The BALTIC NEWS AGENCY reports that speeches made during the meeting demonstrated that the cooperation of the Baltic states was assessed from various positions and not from a joy at the (?unification of the Baltic states).

The head of the Latvian delegation, Dainis Ivars, vice chairman of the country's parliament, noted that Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia are competitors from the economic point of view. In the opinion of Arnold Ruutel, the chairman of the Estonian parliament, such statements are too simplified because new businessmen would like to act freely in the markets of all three states. The head of the Estonian delegation, Marju Lauristin, noted that the laws should be coordinated, not in accordance with Baltic, but in accordance with European standards. Only Bronislovas Kuzmickas, deputy chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Council, expressed support for firm, all-around cooperation. He stressed that one of the main tasks of the assembly would be to

form a common conception of relations with the Soviet Union because that country, according to Bronislovas Kuzmickas, is attempting to include the Baltic states in an economic union.

Estonia

'Official' High Level Talks With USSR Held

OW1011140791 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1130 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Official delegations of the USSR and Estonia led by St. Petersburg's Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak and Estonian Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar are holding talks Nov 10 in Narva-Iessuu (Estonia's northeast). The press service of the Estonian Government notes that this is their first official meeting after the USSR president appointed A. Sobchak head of the Soviet delegation at the talks with Estonia.

The agenda includes the status of Soviet troops in Estonia, the mutual customs regulations, USSR property in Estonia, and certain organisational matters.

Communique Issued on Talks

LD1111160691 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1449 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Albert Maloveryan]

[Text] Tallinn, 11 Nov (TASS)—The first round of official talks on the procedure for Estonia's withdrawal from the USSR was held on 10 November in the Estonian border settlement of Narva-Iessuu in the northeast part of the republic.

The Estonian delegation was led by Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar and the Soviet delegation by Mayor of St Petersburg Anatoliy Sobchak. By agreement between the sides, the meeting was confidential.

In a communique issued afterwards, the Soviet side stressed that it was not empowered to discuss any matters connected with altering the state border of the USSR and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR]. Estonia, as is known, insists on the territorial integrity of the republic within the borders of 1920, when under the Tartu peace treaty with Soviet Russia, lands beyond the Narva river and in Prichudye became part of Russia. After the war these lands were included in Leningrad and Pskov Oblasts of the RSFSR.

The communique notes also that the sides decided to hold talks simultaneously on the following main topics: issues concerning the state frontier and mutual frontiers, simplification of mutual communications and vital supplies to the towns of Narva and Ivangorod; humanitarian and legal questions, including citizenship problems between the states, the social and legal protection of citizens and legal

persons of both states; questions of ownership and other property relations between the sides.

Procedural matters were agreed.

The next plenary session is to be held in the first 10 days of December of this year.

Savisaar, Sobchak Cited

LD1111150691 Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT
11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Albert Maloveryan]

[Text] Tallinn November 11 TASS—"The normalisation of relations between Estonia and the USSR will have a favourable impact on the political and economic situation in both countries," head of the Estonian delegation, Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar said here, summing up the results of the first round of official talks on the procedure of Estonia's secession from the Soviet Union.

The meeting of the two delegations took place on Sunday [10 November] in Narva-Iessuu, a border town in the north-east of the republic. The meeting was of a confidential character. Both sides agreed that information on the talks would be furnished only by the heads of the two delegations.

Head of the Soviet delegation, St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak noted the good will displayed by both sides during the negotiations and their readiness to reach mutual understanding.

"The results of this meeting can be regarded as fruitful," Savisaar stressed, "at least because we now realise clearly the long road we shall have to traverse before we reach full accord on all the legal, social and economic problems involved."

At the same time, Savisaar noted the differences existing in the approaches of the two sides to the solution of some issues.

In its communique, published after the meeting, the Soviet side stressed, in pari, that it was not authorised to discuss any claims to change the existing state borders of the USSR and the Russian federation. Estonia, as it is known, insists on the territorial integrity of the republic within the 1920 borders. According to the Tartu peace treaty with Soviet Russia, it acquired at that time lands beyond the Narva River and near Lake Chudskoye. After the war, these territories were included in the Leningrad and Pskov regions of the Russian Federation.

Results Reviewed

OW1211044691 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1100 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On November 10th at the Narva-Issuu settlement in north-eastern Estonia the first round of inter state talks was concluded between the USSR and Estonia.

Mayor of St. Petersburg Anatoliy Sobchak led the Soviet delegation and the Estonian delegation was headed by Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar.

By the end of the meeting the two sides had agreed upon a joint communique in which it is stated that all further talks will be based on four fundamental directives.

First, the question of state borders and how to simplify the border regime between the cities of Narva (Estonia) and Ivangorod (Russia) was raised. During the discussion, the Estonian side brought up the September statement by the Presidium of the Estonian parliament on the necessity of returning parts of the Leningrad and Pskov regions' territory to neighboring Estonia. Anatoliy Sobchak replied, however, that the Soviet delegation was not empowered to discuss changing the borders of Estonia with the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation.

The second directive is on humanitarian rights issues, including questions of citizenship. Both sides agree to approach the question following the basic principles of international law.

The third directive is on protecting the social rights of citizens.

The fourth directive deals with questions of property and the Army.

Estonian Prime Minister Savisaar told journalists that the first meeting took on an organizational character, and that its goal was to agree on procedural questions.

The fundamental positions of the delegations were solidified in the four directives, which in Savisaar's words showed that the two sides were "very close on some questions, and on others, not very close at all."

Sobchak told journalists that the delegations entirely completed the program laid out for the first meeting, and that the delegations "worked constructively and the talks progressed in a spirit of benevolence." The leader of the Soviet delegation called the first meeting a "hopeful beginning."

The next meeting of the delegations is planned for the first part of December.

The permanent Estonian representative in Moscow, Juri Kakhn, stated in an interview with a "BALTFAX" correspondent that an Estonian ambassador to the USSR would be named this week. In the representative's words, the present residence of the Estonian representation will become the Estonian Embassy. The diplomatic corps, most likely, will be limited to 8 people. The government of Estonia intends to organize a "powerful" consular division in the embassy.

Mr. Kakhn emphasized that the time of opening, the number of employees, and the function of the Soviet Embassy in Tallinn will be decided by the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the principle of necessity, and not on the principle of diplomatic parity.

Republic Border Controls To Be Introduced

PM1111132991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
11 Nov 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report by correspondent L. Levitskiy: "On Coming to Estonia, Prepare Your Documents"]

[Text] Tallinn—The Estonian Government has prepared a resolution "on the provisional procedure for entering and leaving the Estonian Republic." As of 15 November monitoring the documents of citizens crossing the republic's borders will probably begin.

There are no problems on the western borders. Visas are already being issued in several European capitals. Talks are also under way on a visa-free regime. The problem is with the eastern border. Every year it is crossed by millions of people. How to control their entry? At the first stage the checking of documents will begin. In a month's time permission will be required to enter the republic. An insert in the incomer's document will serve as a kind of visa. It will indicate the duration of his stay. The procedure will be no burden to tourists or businessmen—the inserts will be issued directly at stations and airports.

The second stage is the transition to real visas. To obtain them it will be essential to receive an invitation or call to Estonia. Who will issue the visas? In Moscow a consular section is being created at the republic's embassy. Obviously a consulate will appear in St. Petersburg. It will be easiest of all for the inhabitants of Ivangorod and Narva. They will be able to visit each other using special all-purpose passes. An agreement on this has been prepared between Estonia and Leningrad Oblast.

Estonia's permanent residents are not worried yet. To cross the border all they need is a passport with a note on their registration. But how will they be welcomed on the adjacent Russian side? The agreement between Estonia and Russia on the border regime will give the answer. It is now being worked out and will undoubtedly make amendments to the system for the exchange of the two countries' citizens.

Parliament Debates Temporary Entry-Exit Rules

OW1011143791 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1130 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The draft ruling presented to the Estonian Supreme Council by the Director General of the State and Border Security Andrus Oovel proposes checks beginning with Nov 15 this year at the check points on

the economic border: on the motor roads, the border-line railway stations, and in the sea and air ports open for international traffic.

With respect to USSR citizens the checks will be held in four stages: passport checks on the border, an insert with a visa reprint, next—an invitation from private persons or organisations, and finally, the visa.

Following a lively debate the resolution was put off till Nov 11.

Ex-KGB General on National Security Future

OW1011222691 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1630 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Chairman of the former Estonian KGB General Rein Sillar has said in an interview with BALTFAX that future special service in Estonia should set itself the task of protecting the republic's state system "against structures undermining it". R. Sillar finds particularly important combating organized crime and international terrorism.

"Most vital at the moment", he says, "is working out the conception of Estonia's security.

He supposed that western secret services may step up their activities in Estonia, mostly on economic issues.

Nov 6 the commission mopping up the former USSR KGB branch brought over to Tallinn documents and arms from the district centre Rakvere. Next week more KGB possessions will come from Kohtla-Jarve and Narva. "That will be the end of KGB in Estonia", explained R. Sillar.

The chairman of the commission for dismantling the KGB in Estonia, the Mayor of Tallinn Hardo Aasmae urged in an interview with BALTFAX a speedy creation of Estonia's own secret services.

He pointed out as one of the first problems to be attended in that respect the fact that about 15,000 people live now in Estonia without permission. "Locating those people should be the first priority of the Estonian secret service", said H. Aasmae.

Latvia

Chairman Gorbunovs Invited for UK Visit

LD0911143491 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian
1831 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Anatolijs Gorbunovs, chairman of the Latvian Supreme Council, has received an official invitation to visit Great Britain in the beginning of February. [passage indistinct]

Monetary Reform Committee Law Adopted

PM1111142191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
11 Nov 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report from roundup of IZVESTIYA, TASS, and RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY reports]

[Text] The Latvian Supreme Council has adopted a law "On the Latvian Republic Monetary Reform Committee."

The committee will include the chairman of the Council of Ministers, the president of the Latvian Bank, and the chairman of the parliament's Economic Commission. It is not reported when the new Latvian money—lati and centimes—is to be introduced into circulation.

Republic Liberal Party Ends Congress 10 Nov

OW1011150891 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1130 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Latvian Liberal Party is finishing its congress in Riga Nov 10.

Before the congress' opening the chairman of the party's board Georgs Lansmanis told the journalists that the party's economic programme includes a "shock therapy" for two or three months with large-scale privatization and favourable conditions for foreign investments, also with the introduction of a national currency.

To introduce the lat (that is Latvian currency—BF [BALTFAX]) G. Lansmanis suggests marking USSR ruble with the Latvian Republic's stamp.

Taxes should run—point out the Liberals—at no more than 13% of the incomes. Complete release of prices is safe, in their opinion, only after doing away with monoproducers on the market.

Lithuania

Food Price Increases Become Effective

LD1111164391 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network
in Lithuanian 1500 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] I do not wish to list the price tags I have observed throughout Vilnius stores, however, I will recall that meat and its products, milk and dairy products, and the Kaunas, Palanga, Dzuku, and Dainava breads will be sold throughout Lithuania in accordance with prices set by the government. All other products will be sold according to market prices. Apparently, we will all have to become accustomed to carrying more money around, since it is not known how much the lemonade we purchased today for one or two rubles will cost tomorrow. Since the prices of other varieties, than those I have listed for bread and flour products, will be announced by city and rayon administrations, we will apparently have to come to terms with yet another—

another novelty—thus, if you happen to be shopping in Silale or Silute, the bread of a certain variety—or macaroni or barley will differ in price, since permission has been granted to municipal governments of those cities to set the prices. [passage omitted]

Introduction of Free Prices Discussed

PM111115991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
11 Nov 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report by correspondent N. Lashkevich: "Lithuania Has Introduced Free Prices, But Is Trying To Regulate Them"]

[Text] Vilnius—As of 11 November free wholesale and retail prices for food products have been introduced in Lithuania.

And so the government has kept its word regarding a more resolute transition to the market economy. Actually, the population seems even to have received this news with some relief since everyone has already become thoroughly sick of the pre-reform tension and standing in line and chasing after goods which, because of the increased speculative demand, were utterly unobtainable. In addition many people believed that free prices are the only way out of the critical situation. The government's practical steps were also persuasive. A month ago wages were increased 30-40 percent and today the average wage, Prime Minister Vagnorius said, is about 1,000 rubles [R] a month. People have already prepared to survive hard times and in principle are ready to tighten their belts in the hope of a better future.

The aim of the liberalization of prices Lithuanian-style is to reduce subsidies from the state budget for meat and meat products, dairy products, and some kinds of bread, to protect the domestic market, and as a whole to begin a new stage in the advance toward a free market. So far it is too early to say what prices will appear in the windows of Lithuanian stores, but it is already clear that they will nonetheless be partially regulated by the state. Thus, while some foods produced at the republic's enterprises will be sold at market prices (confectionery, fish, beer, lemonade, vegetables, fruit, and others), prices for meat will be established from above: Meat will start to be sold both by the general vouchers and coupons which have been in operation in Lithuania since August and also without them at regulated prices. Prices for freely sold meat are increasing 50 percent against the retail prices established for trading with the general vouchers. Consequently everything depends on the price to come for "voucher" meat.

R. Stanikunas, director of the prices department at the republic's Ministry of the Economy, explained in an interview with a Lithuanian newspaper that in that case some meat products will be sold at prices increased by 40 percent. Whereas previously beef of average quality cost R8-11, for instance, now the price will be about R12-15 upon the presentation of vouchers and R18-22 at market prices. This arithmetic, like the mechanism for the

introduction of free prices in Lithuania incidentally, is very instructive on the threshold of free prices in Russia.

As we can see, the result is prices which are as it were "half-free." According to approximate calculations the state subsidy for meat will be about R100 million a month, so that only the first step has been taken on the path to the market, and in the spring the complete liberalization of prices is expected.

Retail prices for milk are increasing by an average of 25 percent and prices for individual types of bread 100 percent. The government has obliged the leaders of state enterprises and recommended to all other enterprise leaders that they reduce prices for catering in canteens and buffets, earmarking up to R70 a month per worker from the enterprises' funds. These subsidies, incidentally, are not subject to income tax. Prices for industrial goods, Vagnorius said at the session of the republic's Supreme Council, will be free at the end of this week.

Official Views New Baltic Assembly's Role

OW1211054891 Moscow BALTFAX in English
1400 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Bronislavas Kuzmitskas, deputy head of the Lithuanian parliament, has said that the Baltic Assembly founded at a conference in Tallinn on November 8 sees it as one of its major tasks to coordinate the foreign political efforts of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, particularly where the three republics' relations with the Soviet Union are concerned.

Mr. Kuzmitskas told a press briefing in Vilnius on Monday [11 November] that the Tallinn conference had revealed considerable differences among Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia with regard to the new interparliamentary body's set of functions.

The Estonian delegation had suggested making the Baltic Assembly an exclusively constituent body, whereas Lithuania had insisted that the assembly take on the consultative and coordinating functions.

The parties finally agreed that the Baltic Assembly should be an interparliamentary constituent body.

More Charges To Be Brought for Jan Events

LD0911170491 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program
Radio-1 Network in Russian 1300 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] The Procuracy General of Lithuania will bring official accusations against 15 persons in the next few days in connection with their involvement in the January events in Vilnius. Among them are Burokevicius, first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee; Naudziunas, secretary of the Central Committee; and Jermalavicius, head of the Ideology Department. According to the Procuracy, they are currently in Moscow. Because they are formally USSR citizens, the

question of giving them to Lithuania should be decided at an intergovernmental level.

Procurator Cited on Events

LD0911150191 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 0200 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] The weekly GIMTASIS KRASTAS has published an interview with Arturas Paulauskas, the general procurator of the Republic of Lithuania. Audrius Matonis describes this interview:

[Matonis] Material collected by the the Lithuanian General Procuracy in Moscow and Vilnius makes it possible to recreate, more or less, a complete picture of the January tragedy and name its initiators and executors, states the Lithuanian general procurator. They are the CPSU, its branch in Lithuania, the KGB, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the Army.

Serious plans to attack the Republic of Lithuania were initiated in the summer of 1990 when a meeting took place at the CPSU Central Committee on the situation in Lithuania and on possible means of influence. On 3 January 1991, deputy head of the (?Z) Department of the KGB, Vorotnikov, arrived in Lithuania. A group of the "Alfa" scouts arrived by air in Lithuania on 7 January, and Burokevicius met with Yazov, Shedin, Pugo, Kryuchkov and Boldin at the CPSU Central Committee. On 10 January Mikhail Gorbachev contacted the Supreme Council demanding a return to the situation of 10 March, and the former chairman of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic, Vytautas Sakalauskas, was recalled from Mozambique by telegram.

Asked what part was played by the National Salvation Committee, General Procurator Arturas Paulauskas said that essentially it was a cover for the Lithuanian Communist Party. The entire dirty deed was carried out by the Burokevicius party. It had been examining the social and political environment in Lithuania and creating fifth column structures in Lithuania. Burokevicius and his accomplices in Lithuania were among the most important initiators of the January tragedy.

To the question why television structures and not the more politically important buildings, let us say, the Supreme Council, were attacked, the general procurator replied that the putschists thought that it was not important what they were attacked. They expected that the use of force alone would create confusion in Lithuania which would enable them to change the government. The text about the taking over of power was written on 11 January. The deputy commander of the "Alfa" group, Lieutenant Colonel Golovtsov, has stated that after his arrival in Vilnius he was given a list of objects to be attacked and he had a choice. This list included the Supreme Council, but he decided

that he did not have enough strength to occupy it. Therefore, he chose the TV tower, the TV and Radio Committee, and the radio transmission center.

Prime Minister Cited on KGB Materials

LD0911155591 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2230 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Following his return from Uruguay the Lithuanian deputy prime minister, Zigmas Vaisvila, held a news conference in Vilnius. Mr. Vaisvila informed the newsmen about the 60th session of the Interpol General Assembly where Lithuania had been accepted as full member of the Interpol.

However, the journalists were mostly interested in the scandal over the classified KGB materials that had allegedly been taken from the Soviet State Security headquarters in Vilnius. Yesterday the Lithuanian MPs [members of parliament] expected Zigmas Vaisvila to provide them with an explanation about the alleged disappearance of some of the documents, but Mr. Vaisvila did not come to the parliamentary sitting. At today's news conference the Lithuanian deputy prime minister said that the Lithuanian Government had issued strict instructions on guarding the KGB headquarters and making an inventory list of the KGB property. Nobody had the right to carry out classified material from the building, but Mr. Vaisvila did admit some passes had been issued.

According to Zigmas Vaisvila, serious misunderstandings over the documents started the moment the KGB headquarters were handed over to the Lithuanian authorities since the KGB officers still had free access to the building. The Lithuanian deputy prime minister said that the bulk of classified material had been taken away from Vilnius already last year. However, he did not deny the fact that there had been some security violations since the takeover of the KGB building in Vilnius. Most of the violations, however, occur in regional KGB headquarters in the Lithuanian province. Zigmas Vaisvila mentioned two concrete facts where national defense and police officers attempted to carry out or hide classified material. At present the Lithuanian prosecutor's office is investigating into this matter.

Commenting on the statement made by MP Jurgis Virgalis that named concrete dates when the documents had been allegedly carried out in sacks, Zigmas Vaisvila said that he had asked the national Defense Ministry for explanation. On his return to Vilnius, back from Uruguay, Mr. Vaisvila found out that all relevant material had been handed over to the general prosecutor's office. Meanwhile, national Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius, speaking at the parliament last week, said that he knew nothing about the facts mentioned by MP Jurgis Virgalis. The Lithuanian deputy prime minister, Zigmas Vaisvila, also noted that up till now he does not have the inventory list of the KGB arms.

Chechen-Ingush Situation

Yeltsin Issues Decree on State of Emergency

CM1211144891 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1952 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic presidential decree on the situation in the Chechen-Ingush Republic; issued in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] The acute deterioration of the situation in the Chechen-Ingush Republic caused by the illegal actions of the Executive Committee of the Chechen People's National Congress and its leaders who are trying, through the organization of mass disorders and use of force, to remove the legally functioning state bodies from power, creates a real threat to the safety of citizens and the republic's constitutional system.

The actions to stabilize the situation in the Chechen-Ingush Republic undertaken by the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet and government, due to the active opposition by Dudayev and his group, have not brought the desired results. The Executive Committee of the Chechen People's National Congress and its leaders have not fulfilled, in accordance with Article Seven of the RSFSR law on the state of emergency, the RSFSR president's demand that they halt their illegal activities. In these conditions the elimination of illegal, violent actions is impossible without the adoption of extraordinary measures.

With the aim of stopping the mass disorders, accompanied by violence, and halting the activities of illegal armed formations, in the interests of ensuring the safety of citizens and guarding the Republic's constitutional system, being guided by Paragraph 12 of Article 121, Section 5 of the RSFSR Constitution, in accordance with the RSFSR law on the state of emergency, I hereby decree the following:

1. A state of emergency is to be instituted over the whole territory of the Chechen-Ingush Republic from 0500 on 9 November 1991 until 0500 on 9 December 1991.

2. Under Articles 15, 16, and 17 of the RSFSR State of Emergency Law an interim administration for the Chechen-Ingush Republic is to be instituted on the territory of the Chechen-Ingush Republic as a special form of government.

A.B. Arsanov, the RSFSR president's representative in the Chechen-Ingush Republic, is appointed head of the interim administration; and Major General V.M. Ibragimov, minister of internal affairs, is appointed deputy head of the interim administration. They are instructed to form the interim administration for the Chechen-Ingush Republic within three days.

Orders and instructions by the interim administration for the Chechen-Ingush Republic and by its head, issued in accordance with the RSFSR State of Emergency Law

and the present decree, are binding on all state and public bodies, organizations, institutions, enterprises, and citizens on the territory of the Chechen-Ingush Republic.

3. During the state of emergency, rallies, street marches, and demonstrations, as well as other events involving large numbers of people, are banned. Strikes are also banned.

Firearms, edged weapons, ammunition, and toxic and explosive substances are to be temporarily confiscated from citizens, enterprises, and organizations; radioactive substances and military training equipment are also to be temporarily confiscated from enterprises and organizations.

4. During the state of emergency, the interim administration for the Chechen-Ingush Republic is to institute:

A. a special regime for exit and entry as well as a special procedure for traveling within the state of emergency zone, including the inspection of means of transportation;

B. the enhanced protection of public order and installations that provide for the population's essential activities;

C. the suspension, after a preliminary warning, of the activities of public organizations and mass movements that hinder normalization of the situation;

D. the checking of documents in places where citizens gather, and in exceptional circumstances, if there is information that a citizen is in possession of arms, the personal examination of his possessions, his home, and his means of transportation;

E. the eviction, at their own expense, of those disrupting public order who turn out not to be residents of the given localities and their return to their place of permanent residence or to somewhere outside the territory of the Chechen-Ingush Republic.

5. A curfew is to be introduced from 0500 on 9 November 1991. Citizens violating curfew regulations are to be detained by the forces of law and order until the curfew comes to an end, and those who do not have documents with them can be held until their identity is established but for no more than three days.

Those being detained and the articles in their possession can be examined.

6. Under Article 38 of the RSFSR State of Emergency Law, elections to bodies of state authority and local self-government are not to be held throughout the entire period of the state of emergency.

7. All state bodies, enterprises, institutions, public organizations, and citizens of the Chechen-Ingush Republic are obliged to render all possible support to state bodies and to comply with their mandatory instructions. Non-compliance with instructions and orders will incur liability as established by the RSFSR State of Emergency Law.

8. Before 11 November 1991 the RSFSR Council of Ministers is to determine procedures for financing the measures envisaged in the state of emergency arrangements.

9. Before 9 November the RSFSR Minister of Internal Affairs and the chairman of the RSFSR KGB are to submit proposals for introducing additional Interior Ministry and KGB forces and resources into the state of emergency zone.

10. The population of the Chechen-Ingush Republic is to be apprised of the institution of the state of emergency no later than 2300 on 8 November 1991.

[Signed] RSFSR President Boris Yeltsin, the Kremlin, Moscow

Three Ministers Attend Meeting With Dudayev

PM0811205391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
9 Nov 91 Union Edition p 2

[Ali Kazikhanov "Direct Line" report: "IZVESTIYA Correspondent Not Invited To Attend Festivities"]

[Text] Groznyy—The attempt of President Dzhakhar Dudayev of the Chechen Republic to confer with members of the Chechen-Ingush Government ended fruitlessly—only three ministers came to the meeting.

The visit of Yu. Soslanbekov, deputy chairman of the Chechen Republic Supreme Soviet, to V. Ibragimov, minister of internal affairs of the Chechen-Ingush Republic, who has rejected the proposal to swear an oath to president D. Dudayev, ended in failure. After shooting into the air, the group accompanying Yu. Soslanbekov returned to its permanent base—the KGB building.

Only supporters of the Chechen Republic president currently have access to television. Representatives of the mass media who were invited to the Chechen Republic parliament were rebuked for their critical attitude toward the new Supreme Soviet. They were told to report the activities of the Chechen Republic's leadership more fairly and not to print official documents of the Provisional Supreme Council of Checheno-Ingushetia.

The Chechen Republic parliament's lack of professionalism is so obvious that according to observers of the SEVERNYI KAVKAZ [NORTH CAUCASUS] newspaper, the Executive Committee of the All-National Chechen Congress [OChNK] is examining with interest proposals for reelections and even the creation of a congress of people's deputies of Checheno-Ingushetia, with Dudayev being recognized as president. Rallies of both supporters and opponents of the OChNK Executive Committee are continuing in Groznyy. Preparations are also under way there for Dudayev's upcoming inauguration. Incidentally, IZVESTIYA's correspondent has not been invited to attend the festivities.

President Dudayev Said in 'Complete Control'

LD0911032591 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0100 GMT 9 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy, 9 Nov (TASS)—General Dzhakhar Dudayev, president of the Chechen Republic, has just appealed on local television to his compatriots to defend the freedom of his people. Commenting on yesterday's decision to introduce an emergency situation on the entire territory of the Chechen-Ingush Republic, he stated that the Chechen people are not afraid of threats.

To all appearances, the appeal by the president of the Chechen Republic, who was elected on 27 October but who is still not recognized by the Russian leadership, found response among the republican population. In spite of the late hour, the center of Groznyy is turbulent. Thousands of people took to the streets to back supporters of the executive committee of the nationwide congress of the Chechen people.

Dzhakhar Dudayev said that he is in complete control of the situation and he knows exactly what forces the opposing side has at this particular moment. He called on the military to be sensible.

The operative analysis of the situation in Chechen-Ingush provides grounds to think the decision to introduce the emergency situation will not only not stop supporters of Dzhakhar Dudayev but will strengthen their position. Groups and individual residents who are prepared to defend the president at all costs are heading toward Groznyy. They appear to be very well armed.

Dudayev Sworn In, Introduces Military Ministry

LD0911035991 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0200 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] A decree by Dzhakhar Dudayev, president of the Chechen Republic, has been made public in Groznyy. It says: In connection with the declaration of a state of emergency, which is a political provocation and an act of state terrorism with regard to the sovereign republic, I decree that a military ministry be introduced in the state power structure; that (Yusup Saslambekov) carry out the duties of military minister; that all military formations, irrespective of subordination, be transferred to the total subordination of the military minister and declare martial law; that the state of emergency be lifted on the entire territory of the Chechen Republic; that the administrative head and his deputy, who were illegally elected, voluntarily resign by 1200 on 9 November; and that general mobilization be declared.

Dzhakhar Dudayev appealed to all Muslims to turn Moscow into a disaster zone for the sake of our common freedom from Kufr [as heard].

Dzhakhar Dudayev also signed an appeal to all peoples of the Caucasus. It says: The freedom granted by the

most high cannot depend upon Russia forever. It is necessary to turn every meter of land, every village and town into a fortress, and to break off all relations with Russia. We will turn the united Caucasus into a united fortress.

According to the PROF-INFORM news agency, a meeting on Freedom Square in Grozny is under way. Self-defense detachments are being formed. Weapons are being distributed. Cargo airplanes carrying special detachment troops and Special Purpose Militia Detachments are arriving at the military airdrome of (Khankala). According to Dzhakhar Dudayev, 800 people have already arrived. The parliament of the Chechen Republic will hold no negotiations with Russia until the troops withdraw, Dudayev said. The parliament has sworn in President Dzhakhar Dudayev and granted him emergency powers for the period of one month.

Grants Interview

LD0911191691 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1655 GMT 9 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Grozny, 9 Nov (TASS)—The inauguration ceremony of Dzhakhar Dudayev, first president of the Chechen Republic, was conducted under bursts of automatic fire which was directed, thank God, at the sky. The 47-year-old reserves general, clothed in his dress uniform in the presence of the elders of the republic and the public, swore on the Koran to faithfully serve the people and fulfill his presidential duties. I swear, he said, to seek accord and justice among the citizens of my sovereign republic, peace and good relations with all our neighbors to the utmost.

President D. Dudayev gave an exclusive interview to a TASS correspondent immediately after the inauguration ceremony.

I want, he said, all the people of the country and of the world to know that the Chechens do not want confrontation with anybody. The Russian leadership, in Dudayev's view, is wasting time in aggravating the situation in the Chechen Republic. The president said that the Chechen people have expressed their firm will for self-determination and freedom and have no intention of going back on this.

Dzhakhar Dudayev confirmed his stance on the issue of whether the Chechen Republic is part of Russia or not. This issue can and should be decided only by the people themselves by means of a referendum. Touching on the most vexed question—the introduction of troops in Chechen-Ingushetia, D. Dudayev stated that all these boys who do not know what they have been thrown into will be well fed and sent home safely.

KGB Troops Attack Building in Grozny

LD0911035191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0300 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Reports on the events in Grozny are still coming in. The PROF-INFORM news agency reports that special KGB troops are assaulting the town's telephone exchange building. Barricades are being put up on Freedom Square, in the streets leading to the center of the town, and on the approaches to the town. Agitators of the executive committee of the Chechen National Congress are engaged in propaganda among the troops arriving in Grozny.

'Turbulent' Night of Demonstrations Reported

LD0911054191 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0425 GMT 9 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Grozny, 9 Nov (TASS)—The past night has been turbulent in Chechen-Ingush. The decision to introduce a state of emergency has roused the masses. Tens of thousands of people have taken to the streets and squares of Grozny. In a matter of hours the town has been turned into a well reinforced fortress. Roads have been blocked. According to unconfirmed reports there is no railway traffic. Civil and military airports are controlled by the National Guard. The state of emergency in the Chechen Republic, which was introduced by the Russian president, has been lifted throughout the territory of the republic by a decree from General Dzhakhar Dudayev, president of the Chechen Republic. Martial law has been introduced. General mobilization has been resumed.

President Yeltsin has not prevented but has more likely helped us by his hasty decision, Daud Akhmadov, a member of the executive committee of the Chechen Congress and one of the closest associates of Dzhakhar Dudayev, told a TASS correspondent. According to Akhmadov, introduction of the state of emergency has brought together all citizens of the Chechen Republic. Now the Russian leadership will have to deal with not just a political group but with all people ready to make any sacrifices for the sake of freedom.

Dzhakhar Dudayev has introduced a military ministry in the structure of the republican state power. The duties of the military minister are to be carried out by Yusup Soslambekov. It was proposed to the head of the republican administration appointed by decree of the Russian president and his deputy that the republican administration resign by 1200 on 9 November.

Parliament Gives Dudayev 'Emergency Powers'

LD0911093291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0700 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Reports continue to come in from Grozny. Here is a transmission from the PROF-INFORM agency:

Last night the parliament of the Chechen Republic conferred emergency powers on Dzhakhar Dudayev. Dudayev introduced martial law in the republic, declared a general mobilization, and issued an appeal to all Muslim peoples and to the peoples of the Caucasus. Barricades are being built in Grozny, self-defense detachments are being formed, and weapons are being distributed. The people's militia took an oath of allegiance to the Koran. At (Khankala) airport, deputies from the Chechen parliament are holding talks with the commanders of Special Purpose Militia Detachment units. The National Guard controls civil and military airfields, and the highways are blocked.

A TASS correspondent was told by the night duty officer at the Ministry of Railways that railway lines on the territory of Chechen-Ingush are blocked. Reinforced concrete blocks have been placed on the tracks. By 0000 today all the railway points of entry to Chechen-Ingush had also been closed off. The North Caucasus Railway is thus almost completely paralyzed.

Dudayev Urges 'Terrorism' on Nuclear Facilities

LD0911100991 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0900 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] The president of the Chechen Republic, General Dzhakhar Dudayev, who is not recognized by the Russian Government, has called on his fellow countrymen to defend the freedom of their peoples and cancel the state of emergency introduced by the Russian president and declared a martial law in the republic.

Speaking over local television, Dzhakhar Dudayev said that no threats could frighten the Chechen people. It seemed that his speech found response among the population. Downtown Grozny buzzed with excitement; thousands of people took to the streets. In a few hours the city turned into a fortress. The motor roads are blocked; the National Guard controls the civil and military airports.

In an [word indistinct] interview with the FRANCE PRESSE news agency, Dzhakhar Dudayev said he was going to call on the Chechens living in different parts of Russia to commit acts of terrorism, including the explosion of the atomic power stations. He also said he would be sworn in as president no matter what.

MVD Troops Blockaded in 'Explosive' Grozny

LD0911115591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1035 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Moscow, 9 Nov (TASS)—As a TASS correspondent was informed today at the main directorate of the commander of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] forces, the situation in Grozny remains extremely tense and explosive. A military tactical group of internal troops and Russian MVD men who came to Grozny have been blockaded inside the republican

MVD building since yesterday by supporters of Dzhakhar Dudayev, president of the Chechen Republic. The people who have assembled on the square in front of the MVD building are demanding the immediate withdrawal from the republic's territory of representatives of the internal forces and the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic MVD troops who have come down from Moscow, as well as the resignation of the minister of internal affairs of the Chechen-Ingush Republic and his deputies.

An armed group numbering up to 150 men blockaded one of the internal troop units with the help of military equipment on 8 November. Today a large gathering of people can be observed in the area of the unit, and calls can be heard for the seizure of military stores. Those assembled are threatening bloodshed and the use of force against the servicemen.

Agreement Reached on Withdrawal

LD0911131391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1212 GMT 9 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Grozny, 9 Nov (TASS)—Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, leader of the Vaynakh democratic party and a member of the republic's parliament, has labeled Russia's decision to introduce a state of emergency in Chechen-Ingush interference in the internal affairs of another sovereign republic. Analyzing the situation on local television today, he stressed that the Russian leadership had clearly been misled by its aides and by representatives of the so-called Provisional Supreme Council of Chechen-Ingush. Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] representatives who arrived in Grozny have appraised the situation more realistically. According to Yandarbiyev, an accord was reached with them this morning concerning the withdrawal from Chechen-Ingush of the military formations that arrived yesterday.

The center of Grozny now looks like a human sea. Roads into town are blocked by the National Guard, and people continue to arrive from settlements near and far. Many are armed.

There is no sign of any action by law enforcement agencies or the military to institute the state of emergency. It has not yet been possible to contact members of the Provisional Supreme Council or other representatives of the opposition. A joint sitting in the parliament of the Chechen Republic has been going on since morning between that body and the parliament of the confederative state of the highland peoples. An extravagant ceremony for the swearing-in of Dzhakhar Dudayev, president of the Chechen Republic, is scheduled for today.

KGB Resists Parliament's Order To Disband

LD0911134291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1200 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] In Chechen-Ingush, staff members at the republic's KGB have published a statement concerning the decision adopted by the parliament of the Chechen Republic to abolish the committee. The document in particular points out that the decision that has been adopted will, intentionally or not, help to undermine the fight against serious crime and play into the hands of representatives of corrupt elements and mafia structures. The authors of the statement emphasize that they remain staff members of the Chechen-Ingush Republic's KGB.

Denies Storming Phone Exchange

LD0911143291 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1330 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Moscow, 9 Nov (TASS)—A report stating that special KGB subunits have stormed the central telephone exchange in the town of Grozny is not true, according to a statement issued by the Russian KGB's public relations department. Radio Svyoboda has repeatedly put out a report to this effect today, quoting Russian Radio.

Furthermore, the document stresses, the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic KGB does not have any special subunits, and that applies to Grozny as well.

OMON Troops Defect to Chechen National Guard

LD0911163991 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1500 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] News agency correspondents report on events of the last 24 hours. Here is a representative of the Georgian independent agency (IPRINDA) speaking by telephone.

[Zurab Dvali] A state of emergency has been imposed in the Chechen-Ingush Republic. It is to last until 9 December. Yesterday aircraft carrying Special Purpose Militia Detachment [OMON] men landed at Grozny Airport. The airport was then blockaded by National Guard soldiers and also local residents who had arrived from various parts of the city. According to unverified reports, around 60 OMON men have gone over to the side of the National Guard.

All the forces that had earlier been in conflict with each other in the republic have now united and are backing freedom for the Chechen-Ingush Republic. Today Dzharkhar Dudayev assumed the presidency of the Republic.

There is another interesting piece of news: The internal troops on the territory of the Chechen-Ingush Republic have declared that they will not interfere in the internal affairs of the republic.

KGB Spetsnaz Troops Reportedly in Area

LD0911180791 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak
Network in Russian 1537 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Now we come back to the events that are taking place in Grozny. We have the opportunity to find out the details directly from Checheno-Ingushetia. Correspondent Tamara Aliyeva is on the line to the studio. Tamara, Good day. We are ready to listen very attentively to what you have to say.

[Aliyeva] Good day. The first day of the state of emergency in Checheno-Ingushetia which has been declared by Russian President Boris Yeltsin is almost over. The president and the parliament of the Chechen Republic, which are supported by the people, have not submitted to Yeltsin's decree. At a joint session of the Caucasian parliament—you must know that such a parliament does already exist—and of the parliament of the Chechen Republic, this decree has been recognized as having no legal basis and is considered as a direct interference in the affairs of the sovereign Chechen Republic.

Without exaggerating, all Chechen people have risen to support President Dudayev and the parliament which were nationally elected on 27 October. A meeting on Svyoboda Square in the center of Grozny is continuing. An event which at face value may be considered as extraordinary but natural to the Chechen people has taken place. The people have united in the face of danger, and confrontation has gone. It is an ill wind which brings nothing good.

The solemn ceremony at which President Dzharkhar Dudayev took the oath of loyalty to the people has just finished. He swore on the Koran never to betray the interests of his people who elected him to this top post. Representatives of 14 peoples of the country, Soviet, and foreign journalists were present at the ceremony. Answering the question whether Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] and KGB Spetsnaz troops have entered Chechen and Ingushetia, Khusayn Akhmadov, chairman of the parliament, had this to say: Detachments of the MVD Spetsnaz troops were flown in on 10 transport planes to the military airport of Grozny on 7 and 8 November, which was blocked by the national guard. After the appropriate negotiations had been conducted they were moved by special buses to their stations.

Troop Subdivisions Arrive at Airport

LD0911164491 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Excerpt] The RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY reports that IL-76 military transport planes are arriving continuously at Vladikavkaz Airport. They are carrying subdivisions of the Dzerzhinskiy division and its equipment. Approximately 70 flights have arrived from Moscow since 1400. At the present moment the troops are remaining on the territory of the airport. It is known, however, that it has been made incumbent upon the

Dzerzhinskiy Division to carry out the decree introducing the state of emergency in Checheno-Ingushskaya Republic issued by Russian President Boris Yeltsin. [passage omitted]

Assault Troops Head for Chechen-Ingush

*LD1011041191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0300 GMT 10 Nov 91*

[Text] The PROF-INFORM news agency has just transmitted information from the information center of the Chechen-Ingush Republic. According to this report, assault forces have landed at a secret military base on the territory of North Ossetia, near the town of Vladikavkaz. According to unverified reports, it was the Dzerzhinskiy special purpose division. Residents of Nazran have reported that the troops are heading toward Grozny. The Ministry of Defense of the Chechen Republic has precise information on this.

Supreme Soviet News Conference on Emergency

*LD0911185891 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program
Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 9 Nov 91*

[Text] An extraordinary sitting of the Presidium of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet was held today in the White House. Under discussion was the Russian president's decree imposing a state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic. After the sitting a news conference was held, at which our correspondent Vera Shchelkunova was present. Over to her.

[Shchelkunova] The conference is being conducted by deputy chairman Filatov, vice president Rutskoy, state counsellor Shakhrai, and Abdulatipov, chairman of the House [palata] of Nationalities. The most important is this: Filatov announced that three resolutions were adopted by the Presidium: RSFSR President Yeltsin's appeal to the people of Checheno-Ingushetia was approved; his decree will be submitted tomorrow at 1500 to the Supreme Soviet sitting, this being the decree imposing a state of emergency in Checheno-Ingushetia; and, insofar that the decree was given insufficient organizational back-up, according to Filatov, another resolution has been adopted on making Union Interior Ministry forces based on RSFSR territory subordinate to the Russian Federation, in keeping with the October decree which was not complied with by Interior Minister Barannikov.

Naturally, there was a host of explanations about this decree and the situation there. Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy said that since April the Russian Federation leadership has been maintaining a chronicle of the conflict. That is, all negotiations, all contacts, all measures taken by the RSFSR leadership to normalize the situation in Checheno-Ingushetia have been noted. Meetings with Dudayev held by Rutskoy personally and various other delegations always ended with Dudayev promising to uphold the constitutional order and, we will

put it this way, to take the side of democracy. These promises have not been kept—as Rutskoy emphasized, deliberately not kept.

The situation developed like this: On 6 November, Yeltsin and Rutskoy received an encoded telegram from Arsanov, the RSFSR presidential representative in the Chechen-Ingush Republic, giving details of the grave situation in the republic and requesting that vital buildings be placed under guard, practically requesting a state of emergency. Since there was no other option open, said Rutskoy, the appropriate decree was issued. So a state of emergency was imposed in Checheno-Ingushetia, from 0500 on 9 November until 9 December 1991.

The reaction to this measure has already been reported in various reports from various sources, STUDINFORM, TASS, and other agencies. The measures taken in response were these: Dzhakhar Dudayev announced martial and general mobilization. Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, a Chechen Republic member of parliament, speaking today on local television, stressed that the RSFSR leadership had issued an unlawful decree and evidently been misled by its aides and, even, by representatives of the so-called interim Supreme Soviet of Checheno-Ingushetia.

I wanted to ask the chairman of the news conference whether it was true, as claimed by Zindarbiyev, that Russian Interior Ministry personnel now in Grozny had agreed to withdraw the forces deployed in Checheno-Ingushetia, but I was not able to because there were many other people wanting to ask questions, and I will now be returning to the hall to clarify this issue. Some important news, in my view, by Rutskoy includes: What kind of forces have been deployed there? A total of 632 USSR and RSFSR Interior Ministry personnel have been despatched to Grozny. There is not a single Red Army soldier currently in Checheno-Ingushetia. Of these 632, 100 have been sent to ensure the security of the republic's interior ministry while the remainder are at the airport. There have not been any shots fired at anyone. There is an order not to shoot under any circumstances. If shots have to be fired, then they should be into the air only because, quoting Rutskoy, the extremists are hiding behind women and children so that they themselves will not in any way be hurt; only these women and children will be. Therefore there are the strictest instructions not to open fire on the people.

Yeltsin Aide Demands Emergency Rescinded

*LD0911183391 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1800 GMT 9 Nov 91*

[Text] According to the Chechen Republic (?Nokhchechu) information center, Arsanov, who was appointed head of administration by Boris Yeltsin, demanded in an address on Chechen-Ingush radio today that the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic president's decree on introducing a state of emergency in the republic be

rescinded. He stated that he would achieve the decree's cancellation and then relinquish his powers as presidential representative.

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia Rail Links Cut

*LD0911205191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 2000 GMT 9 Nov 91*

[Text] According to a report submitted to the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] vice president by Russian Transport Minister Yefimov, the Shch-elkovskoye, Kazulyult, Ishcherskaya, and Nazran railway stations have been blockaded in Checheno-Ingushetia. As a result, railway links with Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Georgia have been cut off completely. Five passenger trains from Baku and Moscow have been blockaded, as have two local trains. At Nazran station the tracks have been dismantled. Railway traffic is moving only via Rostov-on-Don, Adler, and Baku.

Paramilitary guard units have been disarmed in Grozny: 33 carbines and 1,500 rounds have been confiscated. The runway at Grozny Airport has been blocked with heavy dump trucks. The airports at Nalchik, Mineralnyye Vody, Vladikavkaz, Makhachkala, Maykop, and Mozdok are operating to ensure takeoffs and landings.

Adler Airport has fuel reserves for 24 hours. The possibility of bringing in fuel from Volgograd is being investigated. At present, the RSFSR Transport Ministry together with the Ministries of Aviation, River, and Merchant Marine Fleets as well as railway and road traffic authorities are tackling the problem of supplying the region with essential means of transport and moving freight across the Caspian Sea.

North Caucasus Railway Traffic Halted

*LD1011083591 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0550 GMT 10 Nov 91*

[By TASS correspondent Valeriy Rudenko]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Nov (TASS)—The events in Chechen-Ingush have contributed to the stop of rail traffic between Gudermes and Makhachkala.

According to the duty office of the USSR Ministry of Railways, the blockade of the rail section has a pernicious effect on the work of the entire North Caucasus railway, as well as on the Volga and North-Kazakh railways linked with it. At the Gudermes station alone, nine passenger trains bound for Baku are lined up this morning. There are nearly 100 idle cargo trains on the entire North Caucasus railway. Losses from the stoppage amount to millions of rubles. Attempts by railway workers to find a common language with the Chechen-Ingush authorities have so far yielded no results.

Moscow Mayor Condemns State of Emergency

*LD0911214991 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 2100 GMT 9 Nov 91*

[Text] Speaking today at the Second Congress of Democratic Russia, Moscow Mayor Gavriil Popov condemned the introduction of the state of emergency in Chechen-Ingush. In his view, all autonomous entities in Russia should at once be given the opportunity of seceding from the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic if such a wish is backed by a referendum.

Rutskoy Comments on State of Emergency

*LD1011010391 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 2125 GMT 9 Nov 91*

[Interview with Aleksandr Rutskoy, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic vice president, by an unidentified reporter in a conference hall at an unidentified location on 9 November; from a program captioned "On the Events in the Chechen-Ingush Republic"—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] What is the degree of your personal participation in the preparation of the state of emergency decree?

[Rutskoy] My degree of participation? I worked out this decree directly with Sergey Mikhailovich Shakh-ray. Now even in the Supreme Soviet Presidium both Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin and I have been accused of delaying the introduction of the decree on a state of emergency in Chechen-Ingush because for a long time anticonstitutional speeches and acts have been conducted there on the part of the Executive Committee of the Provisional Committee of the Chechen People. This measure has been taken as a consequence of the fact that Russia has at long last started to live according to the law. In regard to what has been going on in Chechen-Ingush, we have undertaken all possible measures, including political ones. We attempted to persuade them. I was there, the secretary of state was there, Ruslan Imranovich Khasbulatov was there, and a large group of people's deputies was there. A decision was adopted by the Supreme Soviet Presidium, by the Supreme Soviet, as was an appeal by President Yeltsin and a whole list of documents. There was absolutely no response. There was escalation. Armaments became an issue. There was supercharging of the crisis situation in the republic and insubordination as far as the laws and the Constitution are concerned.

[Reporter] Under circumstances in which it is basically impossible to put this decree into operation, in which your actions are paralyzed, did you suppose that this decree would not be reinforced organizationally and technically when it was adopted?

[Rutskoy] Today it has become clear that there is no need to introduce a curfew, but all the remaining articles are right. They are correct, even in today's situation. As far as the material and technical provisions of this decree

are concerned, an instruction of the president of the Russian Federation was issued, proposing that the Russian Federation Council of Ministers consider a proposal on financing and provisions corresponding to the decree on introducing a state of emergency. As far as other calculations are concerned, such as calculations and considerations on the use of Ministry of Internal Affairs personnel—and I underline and draw attention to this—not one soldier of the USSR Armed Forces has been deployed in accordance with this decree on the territory of Grozny and the territory of the republic itself. Not one.

There are 630 Ministry of Internal Affairs personnel deployed on the territory of the republic directly in Grozny. They are Ministry of Internal Affairs personnel. There are 920 men in the Vladikavkaz region who are servicemen of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of both the RSFSR and the USSR. Therefore, as the task was set, all the officials of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs were present at the planning. Barannikov, USSR minister of internal affairs, was there. The acting commander of the internal troops and the deputy commander of the internal troops of the USSR were there because all the internal troops were under the jurisdiction of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, although since 19 September of this year there has been a decree by President Yeltsin transferring to the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation all the internal troops based on the territory of Russia. This decree has not yet been fulfilled. Three options for the execution of this decree were proposed. The option implemented in the given situation was chosen. It will be sufficient to employ 1,500 Ministry of Internal Affairs personnel to ensure constitutional order.

[Reporter] Regarding the contents of the decree on the state of emergency, you have said that its sphere of activity will decrease, there will be abrogation of the curfew, and so on. Is it not the case that a certain review of a number of the provisions of the decree constitutes recognition of a mistake?

[Rutskoy] I consider that all the points of the decree that exist today are not erroneous. They satisfy our Constitution; they satisfy the law on the introduction of a state of emergency. There is no breach of law here. Consequently, what was said today in the Supreme Soviet Presidium that the point concerning the curfew should be declared invalid is a decision to be adopted by the Supreme Soviet.

[Reporter] Nonetheless, if the decree gives rise to a certain negative process in the republic, or—God forbid—bloodshed, will you feel personally responsible for this?

[Rutskoy] Of course. Of course I will feel responsible, but at the same time I will consider that Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin and I were elected by the people, and we are responsible to the people for our actions. Therefore, in view of everything that has been done in the sphere of

the Chechen-Ingush Republic and in order that this does not become some kind of electric charge for all the remaining republics, we have adopted all the measures in accordance with the law and the Constitution. I think that until now—although this night has been quite hard just as the previous night was; since Boris Nikolayevich signed the decree I have not left this building and basically am only drinking coffee. [sentence as heard] You see, not one drop of blood has been shed, and as far as I am concerned—and I know that this applies 100 percent to Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin—bloodshed will not be permitted. No way. I believe that if blood is shed, the blame should lie not with the president of the Russian Federation and with me, but it should lie with that extremist group that is headed by Dudayev.

Rutskoy Says Arrest Order Issued for Dudayev

LD1011114591 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service
in English 0800 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Vice President of Russia Aleksandr Rutskoy announced that an order to arrest Dzhakhar Dudayev, the first president of the Chechen Republic, has been issued. Speaking at a press conference in Moscow, he noted at the same time that there is no possibility to do that.

The troops sent to Chechen-Ingush were given an order not to open fire, said Rutskoy. He said that several hundred servicemen were surrounded at the military airport of Grozny, the capital of Chechen-Ingush. In the meantime, the defense minister of Chechen-Ingush, Yusup Soslambekov, reported that the Chechen guards have arrested about 1,000 servicemen.

On Saturday [9 November] the presidium of the Russian parliament acknowledged as lawful the decree of the president of Russia, Boris Yeltsin, to introduce a state of emergency in Chechen-Ingush. Today an extraordinary session of the parliament will discuss the matter in Moscow. In counterbalance to it, the Chechen leader Dudayev announced a military situation and all-out mobilization in Chechen-Ingush in the north of the Caucasus.

Demonstrators Said Gathering in Grozny

LD1011121391 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak
Network in Russian 1016 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Telephone report from Grozny by correspondent Tamara Aliyeva; from the "Panorama" program—live]

[Text] This morning I reported that it was relatively calm in, but toward midday the situation started to change. Freedom Square is again filling up with demonstrators.

At present the center of attention is the interview given on Central Television by Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy. The interview was the subject of discussion at the morning session of the Chechen Republic parliament. It was noted that any disinformation about the

situation in Chechen-Ingush is nothing but a provocation by the president of Russia himself, Boris Yeltsin.

The Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic president's representative in Chechen-Ingush, Akhmed Arsanov, denies being involved in introducing the state of emergency in the republic. The Chechen Republic parliament today asked Arsanov and Bakhmadov, chairman of the provisional Supreme Council, to come to the session to officially express their positions. At this moment I have no information on whether such a meeting has taken place.

A new republican Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] minister has been appointed; actually, (Umal'd Al'suntanov), who has demonstrated his loyalty to the new leadership and who was previously released from this post, has been returned to his office. This appointment may have an effect on the final political alliance between the republican MVD officers and the president of the Chechen Republic. More than 100 officers earlier took an oath of loyalty to Dzhakhar Dudayev and stated that they would never turn their weapons against their own people.

KAVKAZ, the newspaper of the assembly of mountain peoples, today details why Special Purpose Militia Detachment paratroopers who landed at Grozny's airport on 7 and 8 November in 10 transport planes were forced to turn back. Reliable sources have reported that Komissarov, the Russian first deputy minister of internal affairs, and Major General (Rafarov), who heads the Internal Troops, refused to use weapons against the people, despite Aleksandr Rutskoy's demands to act in accordance with the decree on the state of emergency in Chechen-Ingush.

I will add that the tension in Chechen-Ingush may spread, with unpredictable consequences, to other regions in the north Caucasus. Such a danger exists, but do the deputies of the Russian Supreme Soviet, who are to discuss President Yeltsin's decree today, know this?

Minister Resigns Over State of Emergency

LD1011112191 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Vakhri Ibragimov, the Chechen-Ingush minister for internal affairs who was appointed by Boris Yeltsin, has announced that he does not agree with the introduction of a state of emergency in the republic and has handed in his resignation.

Dudayev Gives News Conference on Situation

LD1011160991 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1509 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Report from Grozny by correspondent Tamara Aliyeva]

[Text] A news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists has just finished: This was Dudayev's first meeting with the media after he was sworn in in a ceremony sanctified by the Koran.

Answering a question on how the relations with Russia will be developing in the future, he said on the basis of parity and as purely economic ones.

With the Ingush people, he said, there have always been and will be fraternal links, in the framework of a single republic, but that the Ingush people themselves must determine how they are going to live and develop.

He also told the journalists, in reply to their questions, of the KGB's provocative schemes on the territory of the Chechen Republic.

Dudayev Says USSR MVD, KGB Troops Gone

LD1111025791 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0200 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] (Ruslan Nashkhoyev), a correspondent of ROSSIYA newspaper, reports from Grozny that President Dzhakhar Dudayev held a news conference in Grozny on 10 November. For 90 minutes he answered questions from journalists from Moscow, Baku, Dagestan, Kabardino-Balkariya, and Georgia, as well as from workers at local newspapers, television, and radio.

Dudayev gave a detailed account of the situation in the Chechen Republic following the introduction of the state of emergency. He noted that the last military formations of USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs and USSR KGB left the republic safely without firing a single shot. He warned the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic leadership that the Chechen Republic has enough people and weapons currently being delivered to the republic to defend its honor and freedom. Women's battalions have also been formed. If another Caucasus war happens, Dudayev threatened, nobody in Moscow will have quiet nights.

Aide Says Dudayev Supporters Control TV

LD1011183391 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Report from Baku by correspondent Azer Khalilov]

[Text] The explosive situation in Checheno-Ingushetia continues to attract the public's attention. Our correspondent Azer Khalilov reports:

[Khalilov] It is not hard to understand the state of those waking up in a town where a state of emergency has been declared. I managed to contact (Ilya Arzamayev), aide to President Dzhakhar Dudayev at the headquarters of the National Congress of the Chechen People. According to the presidential aide, the National Guard and forces of the National Congress of the Chechen People are controlling all the town's most important facilities. As the experience of Baku and Vilnius showed, the first thing to

be done prior to the introduction of troops has usually been to put the television out of action. (Ilya Arzamayev) confirmed that the television is under the control of Dudayev's supporters. He also notes that the whole population of Checheno-Ingushetia, over 90 percent according to his estimate, supports President Dudayev.

I also managed to contact Akhmed Arsanov, a representative of Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin in Grozny, who has been appointed head of executive power in accordance with the decree on the state of emergency. In reply to a question regarding the present situation in Grozny, he said that according to his information, it does not differ from what has been broadcast on central television. I also asked what steps the provisional administration, which he heads, is taking and intends to take. Akhmed Arsanov replied that he only learned from the television of the news about his appointment as head of the provisional administration and the request for a state of emergency to be imposed did not come from him.

In conclusion, Akhmed Arsanov voiced the view that the peoples of Checheno-Ingushetia will have the sense not to allow the situation to become further exacerbated.

Democratic Russia Movement on Suspending Decree

LD1011180191 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1640 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] The second congress of the Democratic Russia movement, which is under way in Moscow, has proposed suspending the force of President Yeltsin's decree on introducing a state of emergency in Chechen-Ingushetia. An appeal has been sent to the Russian president, to parliament, and also to the peoples of Chechen-Ingushetia which says that all constitutional means still have been far from fully utilized to resolve the conflict peacefully. The Congress proposes holding a congress of democratic forces of the republics and the national territorial formations within the Russian Federation in Moscow on 14-15 December to seek a way out of the difficult situation.

KGB Chief Discusses Emergency Situation

OW1111101891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1710 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Chairman of the Russian federation's KGB, Viktor Ivanenko, said in an exclusive interview to IF [INTERFAX] that like other leaders of the Russian Federation's law-enforcement bodies, he had learned about the introduction of the state of emergency in Chechen-Ingush from Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy, at a conference on November 7.

Mr. Ivanenko said that since the conflict in the Chechen-Ingush Republic flared up "he had always campaigned against the use of force against this republic's national movement".

He said that immediately after the conference on November 7, a group led by the Russian federation's deputy-minister of internal affairs, General Komissarov, was sent to Chechen-Ingush.

Mr. Ivanenko also said that the order to detain the leader of the National Congress of the Chechen people, Dzhakhar Dudayev, who was recently elected to the post of the Chechen Republic's president (Russia's leaders qualified the elections as illegal - IF), had been given to Komissarov with Aleksandr Rutskoy's knowledge.

RSFSR, KGB 'Provocative Role' Revealed

LD1011181891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1720 GMT 10 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Grozny, 10 Nov (TASS)—"The Chechen Republic will be an independent sovereign state and will build its relations with all its neighbors, including Russia, on the basis of equal rights," stated Dzhakhar Dudayev, president of the Republic today. He was addressing his first news conference since taking office.

It was stressed that the president of the Chechen Republic and his supporters are not calling upon people to engage in terrorist acts. "But if necessary we can have a tangible influence on any forces encroaching on the liberty of the Chechen people," noted Dzhakhar Dudayev. According to him the Chechen Republic will not be intimidated by a Russian economic blockade. "We can," he said, "and have already started setting up trade with other states."

It was announced at the news conference that the president of the Chechen Republic has documents which testify to the "provocative role" played by the Russian leadership and the KGB in the Chechen-Ingushetia events. It has also become known that the military formations which were brought into the republic on 9 November have withdrawn from the territory of the republic today. "All the entry passages into the Chechen Republic are safely blocked and the highways and railways remain blocked on the Ingushetia and Dagestan sides," reported Dzhakhar Dudayev.

Meanwhile, a meeting of several thousand people continues at the center of Grozny. People are impatiently awaiting the results of the session of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet at which the Russian president's decree on introducing a state of emergency in Chechen-Ingushetia is being discussed.

Dzerzhinskiy Troops Leave for Vladikavkaz

LD1011193591 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] It has become known that 650 servicemen from the Dzerzhinskiy division, who were taken to Grozny airport three days ago and who have been staying there virtually under arrest, arrived at Vladikavkaz airport

today on 20 buses. The Dzerzhinskiy people were unable to leave Grozny by air. All nine of the military transport aircraft on which they had arrived in Chechen-Ingush have been confiscated by a decision of President Dzharkhar Dudayev.

(Iles Arsanukayev), chief of staff of the Defense Committee of the Chechen People, stated in an interview with a correspondent of the RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY that the military is becoming more clever than the politicians. In his words, if the Russian Supreme Soviet confirms Yeltsin's decree introducing the state of emergency in Chechen-Ingush, then the republic will be turned into a fireball. Only those units of the Internal Troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs permanently stationed there now remain in Chechen-Ingush.

Message Urges Amendment to Yeltsin Decree

LD1011231491 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2100 GMT 10 Nov 91

[From the "Vesti" program]

[Text] The focus of our attention is on information coming from Grozny. The Chechen-Ingush situation has exacerbated seriously since the decree by the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] president on the state of emergency in the republic.

[Begin correspondent N. Svanidze recording] The reaction of the Chechens to Yeltsin's decree was natural and predictable: consolidation in the face of external danger. The Ingush population prefers not to come out now against the new Chechen power. General Dudayev has become a national hero. Moreover, he is making well considered and cautious use of the very strong Islamic trump card. The fact that the presidential oath was taken on the Koran reminds us that this trump card exists.

The Russian leadership should bear in mind the terrible jihad option—of religious war, all the more so since tactically in the round of the confrontation between the two pilots, Rutskoy and Dudayev, the initiative was taken by the first Chechen general who behaved competently and quickly. The approaches to Grozny are blockaded. The Khankala aerodrome is controlled by the national guard and tractors are standing on the landing strip. Units of the Dzerzhinskiy division transferred to the city cannot leave the airport's territory, and according to some reports, are awaiting the beginning of evacuation. The ranks of the guard are constantly being swelled by volunteers—from 15 to 55. The main task for both sides now is not to allow bloodshed.

We have learned that a coded telegram addressed to Rutskoy and signed by Kommissarov, deputy Russian internal affairs minister, and Arsanov, Yeltsin's representative in Chechen, proposes introducing serious amendments into the decree of the RSFSR president. [end recording]

Filatov Reads Draft Resolution on Situation

LD1011211491 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1930 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Draft resolution issued by a commission on the situation in Checheno-Ingushetia and read by Sergey Aleksandrovich Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, RSFSR, Supreme Soviet, at a session of RSFSR Supreme Soviet on 10 November in Moscow—recorded]

[Text] Having examined the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] president's decree on the introduction of a state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet resolves:

1. To recognize that the RSFSR president's decree on the introduction of a state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic was adopted in accordance with the RSFSR Constitution and with the RSFSR law on states of emergency.

2. Taking account of the exacerbation of the sociopolitical situation in the republic and in accordance with Article 12 of the RSFSR law on states of emergency, to consider possible the use of the following measures to settle the conflict by political means:

a) The increased protection of facilities providing vital supplies to the population;

b) The increased protection of communications facilities, railway, and aviation transport and highways;

c) The establishment of a special regime for entry into the republic, precluding importing weapons.

3. To urge all sides in the Chechen-Ingush Republic to abstain from using force.

4. To propose that the RSFSR president take urgent measures to strengthen legality, law, and order in the republics and regions of the Russian Federation, and to disband sociopolitical movements and organizations calling for the inflammation of inter-ethnic strife.

Rutskoy on Russian Leadership Efforts To Help

LD1011182391 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Report by parliamentary correspondent Nikolay Artyev]

[Text] Although it is a day off, passions are raging at the Russian White House today. Deputies are examining the issue of President Yeltsin's imposition of a state of emergency in Checheno-Ingushetia. The decree was passed as a result of the situation in the republic with the aim of halting the mass disturbances which have been accompanied by violence and of stopping the activity of illegal armed formations, in the interests of insuring the safety of citizens and guarding constitutional order.

Aleksandr Rutskoy, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic vice president, spoke at the session today. He described in detail the events in the Chechen-Ingush Republic that have led to the present situation and the efforts of the Russian leadership in conjunction with deputies to overcome the deadlock. Aleksandr Rutskoy stressed that all these efforts have failed because of the destructive policy of General Dudayev and his supporters. Incidentally, Dudayev's election as President has been deemed unlawful by the Russian parliament.

The Russian vice president said that there is a conflict taking place between the law and lawlessness. He appealed to deputies to endorse the president's decree on the state of emergency and proposed that control posts be set up along the republic's borders and a whole series of other energetic measures taken. During the subsequent discussion, views were heard both in support of the president's decree and in favor of urgently revoking it. Supporters of the latter stance believe that the use of force could whip up the conflict and cause it to spread beyond the republic. The debate on this extremely urgent issue is continuing. No decision has yet been passed by the Supreme Soviet.

Rutskoy Confirms Emergency Grozny Request

OW1111095791 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1710 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At Sunday's [10 November] emergency session of Russia's Supreme Soviet Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy repeated that November 6 Russia's leadership received "coded cable signed by Arsanov requesting emergency measures under RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] law not later than November 8."

"The cipher was seen by only two men," specified A. Rutskoy, "by the republic's Interior Minister Ibrahim-bekov and the coding officer."

Rutskoy Refuses To Resign Over Decree

LD1011232191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 2200 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Aleksandr Rutskoy, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] vice president, stated at the extraordinary session of the Russian Supreme Soviet today that the decree on introducing a state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic had been issued after a coded telegram had been received 6 November from the RSFSR president's representative in the republic, RSFSR People's Deputy Akhmed Arsanov, who was insisting on such a measure. Rutskoy read an operational report from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, dated 10 November at 0900, which shows that the RSFSR president's decree had still not been carried out in the Chechen-Ingush Republic on a single point. [passage omitted]

According to Rutskoy's information, 700 convicts escaped from a remand center in Chechen-Ingushetia on Sunday. Replying to a question from deputies as to why the RSFSR president's decree was not being carried out, Rutskoy said that RSFSR deputy minister of internal affairs Vyacheslav Komissarov had been given instructions to detain Dudayev, but the former, according to the vice president, had shown a lack of will which ought to be punishable.

Replying to a question as to who, in his view, should resign as a result of what had happened, Rutskoy answered that he would not resign, but he again confirmed that he had been the one who had elaborated the draft presidential decree.

Supreme Soviet Rejects State of Emergency

LD1111111191 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1045 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS parliamentary correspondent Galina Vinitskaya]

[Text] Moscow, 11 Nov (TASS)—The Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet today adopted a decision on the decree issued by the RSFSR president on 7 November 1991 "On the Introduction of a State of Emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic." The RSFSR Supreme Soviet recognized the actions of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the RSFSR president in their attempts to settle the conflict in the Chechen-Ingush Republic by political means as being lawful, but the Supreme Soviet considers that in the present situation it is not possible to endorse the Russian president's decree.

Efforts to settle the crisis must be continued not by using emergency measures but through political means. The RSFSR president and the chambers, committees, commissions, and the Presidium of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet must take measures to stabilize the political situation in the Russian Federation, safeguard its territorial integrity, protect its statehood and the vital interests of all the peoples living there, and settle federal relations within the RSFSR. It has been decided to form an RSFSR delegation for talks with all political forces in the Chechen-Ingush Republic with the purpose of seeking a political settlement to the conflict and to have the RSFSR Supreme Soviet confirm the mandate of this delegation.

An amendment proposed by Deputy Shakhray was adopted. This amendment proposes the establishment of special regulations for entering and leaving the Chechen-Ingush Republic which would prevent arms from being brought in.

Issues Resolution on Emergency

OW1111130791 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1200 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation has adopted a resolution on the decree on the introduction of the state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic, passed by the president of the Russian Federation on November 7, 1991. The Supreme Soviet resolved:

1. To qualify as legitimate the actions taken by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and by the president of the Russian Federation in an attempt to settle the conflict in the Chechen-Ingush Republic by political means.
2. To state that in the current situation the president's decree cannot be endorsed and that the crisis in the Chechen-Ingush Republic must be settled by political means and not by the use of extraordinary measures.
3. To instruct the president of the Russian Federation, the chambers, and the committees and commissions of the presidium of the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet to take measures to stabilize the political situation in the Russian Federation, to ensure its territorial integrity, to protect its state system and the vital interests of the peoples populating it, and to settle federative relations in the Russian Federation.
4. To carry out a parliamentary and official investigation in order to reveal the persons responsible for making decisions unprepared politically, technically, and militarily.
5. To form a delegation of the Russian Federation for talks with all the political forces of the Chechen-Ingush Republic on settling the conflict to define its powers and appoint its members.
6. To envisage a special regime of exit from and entry into the Chechen-Ingush Republic ruling out the inflow and outflow of weapons.

Resolution on Chechen-Ingush Emergency

LD1111224791 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 2204 GMT 11 Nov 91

["Text" of final version of resolution on Chechen-Ingushetia, adopted by the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet on 11 November—read by announcer]

[Text] We present for your attention the final version of the resolution that was adopted:

Having considered the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] president's decree introducing a state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush republic, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet resolves:

1. to recognize as lawful actions by the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and president in settling the conflict in the Chechen-Ingush republic;
2. to deem it expedient to continue to resolve the crisis that has arisen in the Chechen-Ingush republic not by

means of emergency measures but by political means; and in consequence of which to deem it impossible to confirm the RSFSR president's decree introducing a state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush republic;

3. that the RSFSR president, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the chambers of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet and their commissions, and the committees of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet will take measures to stabilize the political situation in the Russian Federation, to ensure its territorial integrity, to protect the statehood and vital interests of all peoples that inhabit it, and to settle federative relations in the RSFSR;

4. to introduce special conditions governing entry into the Chechen-Ingush republic and departure from it, ruling out the taking in and bringing out of weapons;

5. to appoint a representative delegation to hold talks with the main political groups in the Chechen-Ingush republic for the purpose of bringing about a political settlement of the conflict; the composition of the delegation and its powers to be confirmed at the RSFSR Supreme Soviet;

6. to conduct an official parliamentary investigation using the RSFSR Ministry of Internal Affairs and the RSFSR Committee for State Security in order to identify individuals responsible for making insufficiently prepared political and military-technical decisions in the introduction of the state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush republic.

[Signed] Khasbulatov, chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet

Daily Publishes Supreme Soviet Resolutions

Resolution on President's Appeal

PM1211114991 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 12 Nov 91 p 1

[Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution dated 9 November: "On the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic President's Appeal"]

[Text] Having examined the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] president's Appeal No. PR-17 and the RSFSR president's Decree No. 178 "On the Introduction of a State of Emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic," the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves:

1. It is to be recognized that the RSFSR president's decree "On the Introduction of a State of Emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic" was adopted in accordance with the RSFSR Constitution and the RSFSR Law "On the State of Emergency."

2. An extraordinary session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet is to be scheduled for 10 November 1991, and the RSFSR president's decree "On the Introduction of a

State of Emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic" is to be submitted for examination there.

3. All the sides in the Chechen-Ingush Republic are to be urged to refrain from using force. [Signed] R.I. Khasbulatov, chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet

RSFSR House of Soviets, Moscow

Resolution on Yeltsin Decree

PM1211120791 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 12 Nov 91 p 1

[Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution dated 9 November: "On the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic President's Decree 'On the Introduction of a State of Emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic'"]

[Text] The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] House of Soviets, Moscow—Having examined the progress in executing the RSFSR president's decree "On the Introduction of a State of Emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic" and mindful that the introduction of a state of emergency is an act of prudence to defend the RSFSR Constitution and the rights of all the republic's inhabitants, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves:

1. the executive organs' unsatisfactory fulfillment of the RSFSR president's decree in the sphere of organizational and technical measures to ensure the introduction of a state of emergency—which has considerably worsened the sociopolitical situation in the republic. In a complex critical situation the executive organs' leaders (Barannikov, Bakatin, Komissarov) were unable to carry out their direct official duties.

2. The RSFSR president is to be required to make an assessment of the actions of the executive organs' leaders. [Signed] R.I. Khasbulatov, chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet

Yeltsin Accepts Parliament's Decision

LD1211112291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1000 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Our editorial office has received an official report for the press signed by Voshchanov, the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] president's press secretary. It reads:

As is well known, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet has recognized the lawfulness of the actions of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the president of the Russian Federation in their attempts to settle the conflict in the Chechen-Ingush Republic by political means. At the same time, parliament did not consider it possible to endorse the decree on the introduction of a state of emergency. I am authorized to state the following in this regard:

The president is in agreement with the decision of the Supreme Soviet, and will take the necessary measures to implement it. He has never been a supporter of resolving the conflict in question at any price—only by political methods, only by negotiations, however difficult they might be. The president also considers the decision made by the Supreme Soviet to set up a special parliamentary commission as correct, and he is ready to extend every assistance to it.

Certain political forces with an interest in destabilizing the situation and derailing the planned radical reforms will evidently try to depict what has occurred as a conflict between the parliament and the president. In real political life no such thing exists. What is under way in Russia is the formation of parliamentary democracy, under which executive and legislative power exercise mutual supervision. Only such a practice will preclude mistakes which could lead to tragic consequences.

KGB Ready for 'Any Eventuality' After Threat

PM1011182591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
11 Nov 91 Union Edition p 1

[V. Belykh report: "How Real Is Threat From Grozny?"]

[Text] Chechen President Dudayev's threat could lead to unpredictable events, specialists from the USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] believe.

In the opinion of representatives of the Union MVD, he could not have said these words (if indeed they were said) without having "coordinated" them with elders of the Chechen people. If that is the case, they are bound to be seen by representatives of the small republic scattered throughout the country as guidance on how to act. If not, they will be excommunicated from their people, and without them a Chechen finds it virtually impossible to survive.

The USSR MVD nonetheless believes in the good sense of the elders and hopes that things will not go further than threats, although certain measures are being taken in the event of possible acts.

The USSR KGB is also preparing for any eventuality—although, as representatives of the department put it, they have not yet noticed any particular animation among Moscow Chechens.

Russian General Prosecutor Valentin Stepankov has explained that four criminal cases have already been instituted in connection with the events in the republic, but they have nothing to do with Dudayev's words. The general prosecutor also refuted reports that he had allegedly signed an order for the Chechen president's arrest.

Emergency Situation Decree Not Implemented*LD1111060691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0435 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[Text] Moscow, 11 Nov (TASS)—“None of the points of the emergency situation introduced in Chechen-Ingush by decree of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic president is being implemented,” reports today’s PRAVDA. According to a PRAVDA correspondent, “the republic resembles a well reinforced military camp,” the railroad and the motorway between Rostov and Baku have been blockaded, and the civil and military airports of Grozny are controlled by the republican guard.

“We have no opposition at present. Insults and differences have been forgotten,” Ilyas Zamayev, an aide to republican President Dzhakhar Dudayev, told a PRAVDA correspondent. “We are united in the face of the threat of intervention. We do not have dozens of armed people but hundreds of armed people. If blood is shed, we will forgive neither Yeltsin, Rutskoy, Arsanov, or anybody else.” “We will start preparing for the worst, but we will not be the first to shed blood. We want to live with Russia in peace, not wage war,” Zamayev stressed.

Yeltsin Representative Arsanov Resigns*LD1111132891 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1100 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[Text] Akhmed Arsanov, the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic president’s representative in Chechen-Ingush, has officially announced his resignation from this post and called on Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin to rescind his state of emergency decree as it is unacceptable in the circumstances, our correspondent reports.

Today, several thousand people are continuing their Freedom Square meeting in defense of the Chechen Republic’s president and parliament. The situation is being monitored by national guard guerrillas and local police. Schools in the republic have reopened after the vacation, except for a few in the center of Grozny. Shops, food markets, and public transport are operating. A congress of the Russian-speaking population opens in Grozny tomorrow.

Demonstrators Demand Emergency Be Lifted*OW1111133491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1200 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On the night of November 10, supporters of General Dzhakhar Dudayev, the leader of the National Congress of the Chechen People, continued their manifestation in Grozny. They demand that the state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic be lifted.

The Council of Ministers of the Chechen-Ingush Republic sent Russia’s parliament and president the demand that the state of emergency be lifted without delay. The telegram was signed by the members of the Council of Ministers’ presidium, chaired by Sergey Bekov.

According to some sources, the meeting was joined by prisoners who had escaped from a maximum security prison. They announced they were determined to safeguard the freedom and independence of the Chechen Republic and offered to form a special military unit so they could come back to their prison when the situation got back to normal.

Also the first women’s battalion is reported to have been organized to defend the republic’s sovereignty.

Speaking at a press conference in Grozny on Monday [11 November], Dzhakhar Dudayev said that all the peoples of the Caucasus who had got united into the Confederation of the Caucasian Peoples are determined to safeguard their independence. He said that the joint conference of the leader of the Confederation and the Chechen Republic’s parliament had decided to begin mobilization and the formation of armed units to defend the republic. Mr. Dudayev said that the first Azerbaijani unit had arrived in the republic.

Dzhakhar Dudayev also said that a group of KGB men who were on their way to the republic for carrying out terrorist acts had been detained. He said that some of those detained had agreed to take the side of the national guard.

Asked how the Chechen Republic intended to deal with the possible economic blockade, General Dudayev said that a number of agreements on the food supplies had been concluded with the republics and countries which do not belong to the Russian Federation or the USSR. The first lot of food had arrived from Turkey he said.

Tatarstan Condemns RSFSR Leadership Policy*OW1111172291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1400 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A rally in Kazan on Sunday [10 November] condemned the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Socialist Federated Republic] leadership’s policy toward the Chechen-Ingush republic. The rally was organized by the Tatar National Public Center, the Sovereignty Committee and the Tatarstan Independence Party Ittifaq.

Speakers accused Russia of imparting a dangerous direction to the developments in Checheno-Ingushetia by denying its trust to the Chechen-Ingush Supreme Soviet at one time.

The rally adopted a resolution censuring the RSFSR administration for interference in Tatar affairs, and calling for the establishment of Tatarstan’s own National

Guard and the re-subordination of the local police and KGB troops to the republic's president.

Protesters urged the UN Secretary General and the US President to set up a special commission to "investigate Russia's crimes against peoples fighting for freedom and independence."

There have been rumors that some Tatar parliamentarians will be pressing for an extraordinary session of the republic's Supreme Soviet to condemn Russia's interference in the affairs of the Chechen-Ingush Republic.

President's Spokesman Says Talks Possible

LD1111160891 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1433 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Grozny, 11 Nov [TASS]—The report that the Russian parliament has not endorsed the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] president's decree on the introduction on the state of emergency in Chechen-Ingush has been given a joyful reception today by the supporters of the Dzharkhar Dudayev, president of the Chechen Republic.

Daud Akhmadov, the president's aide, told TASS in a telephone conversation that such a decision demonstrates the goodwill of many members of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet and this fact may make talks on normalizing the situation in the republic, something decisively rejected only yesterday, both possible and fruitful. Daud Akhmadov confirmed the position of his president. Talks may begin if the following preliminary conditions are fulfilled: the make up of the Russian delegation and the range of issues chosen for discussion are to be agreed with Dzharkhar Dudayev and the powers of the delegation should be confirmed. After this has been done, he said, it will be possible to speak of the time and place for a meeting.

New Interior Minister on Situation in Grozny

LD1111190691 Moscow TASS in English 1826 GMT
11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Grozny November 11 TASS—The crime rate in Grozny and Chechen regions has decreased over the past three days, former interior minister of Checheno-Ingushetia and present interior minister of the Chechen Republic, Ulmat Alsultanov, said in his televised address today.

Alsultanov was appointed Chechen interior minister by the republican parliament today.

The minister also noted that a considerable part of inmates, who had fled the Naurskiy penitentiary and the investigation ward in Grozny, are now participating in the rally on the Svoboda Square. They said they have

fled the penitentiary and the ward to help protect freedom of the Chechen people.

The minister noted, if these people do not commit new infringements of law and voluntarily return to the penitentiary and the ward after the normalization of the situation, the parliament and the president of the Chechen republic will seek a possibility to commute their punishment.

Alsultanov did not exclude the possibility of their amnesty.

Touching on the wide spread of arms in the republic, the minister said the republican parliament and the president will deal with this problem. He called on the population to be careful with the arms.

Checheno-Ingushetia Leaders Removal Requested

OW1211055191 Moscow INTERFAX in English
2015 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At a meeting with members of the Chechen community in Moscow, Musa Shaniyev, one of the leaders of the parliament of Caucasian Peoples, demanded that those at whose advice the state of emergency had been introduced in Checheno-Ingushetia—Russian Vice-President Alexander Rutskoy, the President's advisor Sergey Shakhrai, and Russian Interior Minister Andrey Dubayev—be removed from the political scene. He described Mr. Dubayev as a "dangerous person".

Bek Mezhdov, a member of the Executive Committee of the National Congress of the Chechen People, said the attempts to bring pressure to bear on Checheno-Ingushetia were the result of the activities of the advocates of a "united and indivisible Russia" in the Russian leadership. "The Chechen Republic is not going to fight any wars," he said. "All we want is to create an independent Chechen state."

Dudayev Condemns RSFSR 'Provocations'

PM1111233991 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 12 Nov 91 p 1

[Interview with Chechen-Ingush Republic President General Dzh.M. Dudayev by A. Korzun; place and date not given—under the "No Commentary" rubric: "Evening Call to General Dudayev"]

[Text] [Korzun] Dzharkhar Musayevich, how do you feel now that the Russian parliament has failed to support Yeltsin's decree?

[Dudayev] I am always happy about Russia's successes. This is one of the most brilliant victories ever won by Russia's democratic forces and its parliament.

[Korzun] What is the situation in the republic at the moment?

[Dudayev] Everything is normal. Chechens have been swarming around like ants day and night for three months now. Tiredness is not to be seen on a single face, and when the provocations die, they get bored. Now Russia has stirred things up and they have gotten enthusiastic. Had it not been for Russia's provocations, we probably would not have reached this level for a long time. Russia is helping us in its own way.

[Korzun] What do you think? Is the confrontation over or is this just the first phase?

[Dudayev] This was the second phase. The third phase will be the hardest for us. Now we have our internal problems, which we have encountered since the provocative escape from a local jail a month ago of informers from MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] and KGB organs. These are ingrained structures for terrorist activities. We captured some of them and released them on a written pledge that they would not engage in provocative activities. Their aims and missions are the same—to organize acts of terrorism. They tried to attack military formations last night. The place where the military formations are located is guarded by three rings of Chechen people to prevent any provocations. These flying squads will now try to provoke and create conditions under which our national movement can be presented as a terrorist or bandit movement. That is what is dangerous right now.

There was a military council session on this issue today. We coordinated all of our forces to localize the activities of these terrorist groupings.

[Korzun] Dzhokhar Musayevich, Moscow, conversely, is scared about acts of terrorism by the Chechens.

[Dudayev] We can guarantee that there will be no acts of terrorism by Chechens, provided the provocative terrorist activity against the Chechen Republic and its people is stopped.

[Korzun] What about the hijackers? What happened to them?

[Dudayev] The hijacking was news to us. In this critical situation, they made an independent decision, hijacked the plane to Turkey, and showed the world that they were ready to take any action in the event that the provocations against our people continued, but seeing that the matter would be examined by the Supreme Soviet, they returned to Grozny, to their wives and mothers, and the plane continued on its way.

[Korzun] Have you met with them?

[Dudayev] No, not so far. I do not even know who these guys are, but they displayed no aggression toward the Turkish Government, the passengers, or the crew.

[Korzun] Do they face any punishment from your republic's leadership and government?

[Dudayev] This is currently being dealt with by law-enforcement organs and the Prosecutor's Office, but since everything ended up like a tourist flight, you can understand the feelings of these guys, who engaged in an act of state terrorism. [sentence as published]

[Korzun] Chechens are picketing the "White House."

[Dudayev] We believe that this is an entirely normal protest, and I am very pleased about that. They were defending that very "White House" back in August and were ready to lay down their lives. They were the first to arrive and show the "White House," Russia, and the entire world that they were prepared to serve a just cause. Now they are there again, in a different camp this time, but for a just cause.

[Korzun] Are you counting on support from the peoples of the Caucasus?

[Dudayev] I am not only counting on it. Help—both as recognition and as real support—already is coming in. Many republics have transferred their military formations to the Chechen Republic Supreme Command and are asking for them to be used in the most dangerous spots.

Our strength is that we are united. We need only one thing—freedom! It is an expensive commodity; it has to be bought at a very high price.

[Korzun] What is the meaning of your statement that in the event of any action by Moscow against Chechnya [Chechnya], Moscow would not be able to sleep easy either?

[Dudayev] Let me assure you that if the state terrorism against our people, our republic, and our citizens continues, we will not allow those perpetrating this evil to go on sleeping easy. We have had enough already. Diplomacy, the law, parliamentary activity, international law—these people understand nothing. They have degraded these concepts and, presenting their state terrorism as some kind of policy, are calmly continuing to provoke us with impunity. They have to be taught a lesson.

[Korzun] Citing a statement by Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy, the Voice of America reported that an order had been issued for Dudayev's arrest.

[Dudayev] Who by?

[Korzun] We do not know.

[Dudayev] Well, let me tell you that in connection with the introduction of the state of emergency, I have personally instructed the Chechen Republic general prosecutor to institute criminal proceedings against those responsible for it and to bring them to account.

[Korzun] You mean the Russian president?

[Dudayev] Rather Rutskoy, Khasbulatov, and Dunayev. Probably this was not the president's doing, but that threesome should be punished.

[Korzun] Do you have the support of all the republic?

[Dudayev] All the republics, all the Caucasus, and more. Support is coming in from Kazakhstan, Central Asia, the Near East, Europe—hundreds and hundreds of peoples and states support our just movement. They are aware of the real situation here; they get objective information—not what the Russian mass media provides.

Yeltsin 'Set Up' on Emergency Situation

PM1211082591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
12 Nov 91 Union Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the general heading "No Agreement Today Without the Help of Arms"]

[Text] The introduction under the Russian president's 8 November decree of a state of emergency in Checheno-Ingushetia has led to a contradictory reaction around the country. The following are the opinions of politicians at various levels. They were expressed in interviews with news agencies on the eve of the Russian parliamentary session which reviewed the decree provisions.

"We must do everything to rule out the use of force in the Chechen-Ingush Republic," Russian Federation People's Deputy Colonel General Dmitriy Volkogonov stated. In an interview with an RIA [RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY] correspondent he noted that "since the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] president has been placed in an awkward position by issuing the state of emergency decree, those who drew up the document should resign." Volkogonov advocated the continuation of the tripartite talks with the participation of supporters of General Dudayev, representatives of the Chechen-Ingush Republic interim Supreme Council, and representatives of the Russian leadership.

"I believe that Yeltsin has been monstrously set up [podstavili]," was how Aslanbek Aslakhanov, a people's deputy in the Russian parliament from Checheno-Ingushetia and chairman of the Committee for Questions of Legality, Law and Order, and the Fight Against Crime, assessed the RSFSR presidential decree instituting a state of emergency in Checheno-Ingushetia. He believes that the decree was the result of Yeltsin's receiving biased information.

"The executive structures of Russian power have again demonstrated their impotence," believes Sergey Stepashin, member of the Russian Supreme Soviet Presidium. In his opinion, Dudayev's popularity had been falling, but following the RSFSR president's decree instituting a state of emergency in the Chechen-Ingush Republic the general's prestige has risen. Stepashin is convinced that there is no military solution to the problem.

Vladimir Novikov, chairman of the RSFSR Parliamentary Factions Council, is convinced that the "state of emergency in this region should have been brought in sooner and more skillfully, because condoning the lawlessness going on before our very eyes would be to condemn people to hunger and the fear of being shot."

RSFSR People's Deputy Ivan Rybkin, coordinator of the "Communists of Russia" parliamentary faction, said in an interview with an INTERFAX correspondent that he supported the RSFSR president's decree instituting a state of emergency in Checheno-Ingushetia since "Dudayev's actions have been unconstitutional from the very beginning, and we could not let such lawlessness pass unnoticed."

Magomed Almazov, deputy chairman of the All-National Chechen Congress, told an INTERFAX correspondent that, following Boris Yeltsin's state of emergency decree the republic's people had "rallied even more strongly around the All-National Chechen Congress Executive Committee and President Dzhakhara Dudayev."

M. Almazov noted that the "partocrats have not managed to split the people, who are prepared to defend their freedom."

As he put it, the Chechen-Ingush Interim Supreme Council, which the Russian authorities had been trying to rely on, has "now virtually collapsed."

Akhmet Arsanov, head of the interim Chechen-Ingush administration, stated that he would announce his resignation from this post "in the next day or two."

In an interview with an INTERFAX correspondent Arsanov refuted reports that he had initiated the introduction of the state of emergency in Checheno-Ingushetia. As he put it, he would not have given his agreement to this to "anyone in the world."

Area 'Relatively Calm;' Rally Continues

LD1211091491 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak
Network in Russian 0800 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Our correspondent reports that news of the repeal of the state of emergency in Chechen-Ingush has helped diffuse the situation in the republic. Last night was relatively calm. However, a rally outside Government House has not ended. Registration for the National Guard and for self-defense detachments is continuing, and the formation of women's battalions has begun.

Situation Viewed; Dudayev Agrees to Talks

LD1211134191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1300 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The situation in Checheno-Ingushetia has cooled down somewhat, TASS reports from Grozny. According to Dudayev aide Ilyas Zamayev, the republican National Guard will withdraw

to barracks and local home guards will hand in their weapons as soon as official confirmation comes of the announcement on lifting the state of emergency in the republic. Let me remind you that the Russian parliament has decided to appoint a representative delegation to hold talks with the main political groups of Checheno-Ingushetia, with the aim of achieving a political settlement to the conflict.

Dzhokhar Dudayev has taken an understanding view of the hijacking by Chechens of an Aeroflot aircraft to

Turkey. The hijackers will not be punished. International law, evidently, does not apply to Dudayev. [passage omitted]

[Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English at 1300 GMT on 12 November carries a brief report on the situation in Checheno-Ingushetia, which includes the following:

"Reports from Grozny say the president of the Chechen Republic, Dzhakhar Dudayev, has agreed to start negotiations with Russia, but has put forward preliminary conditions."]

Moldova

Electricity Saving Measures Introduced

LD1111141591 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak
Network in Russian 0900 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Due to insufficient fuel stocks at power stations in Moldova, the republic's government has adopted a ruling on a 15 percent cut in electricity consumption in industry and agriculture. A number of other measures have also been adopted for economizing the use of power.

State Economic Reform Committee Established

LD1011163791 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0336 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Kishinev, 10 Nov (TASS)—A state committee on economic reform issues has been set up in the Republic of Moldova. Its aim is to render assistance to speeding up and radicalizing economic reform. In its activities, the committee will be backed by executive structures which are being specially established. They consist of a department in charge of privatization, a department in charge of carrying out agrarian reform, and a department in charge of economic reform.

President: Popular Front Undermines Democracy

OW1211055091 Moscow INTERFAX in English
2015 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Mircea Snegur of Moldova has told IF [INTERFAX] that he does not mean to take repressive measures against participants in Sunday's [10 November] demonstration in Kishinev, during which slogans insulting his honor and dignity were chanted. The unauthorized demonstration was organized by the Moldovan Popular Front [PF].

Mr. Snegur observed that some of the PF leaders, among them Druk, Roshka and Hatei, "have not only been attacking the president but also undermining the pro-democracy public movement."

IF's [INTERFAX] correspondent reports that yesterday's demonstration took place in spite of the fact that the idea of holding it had been censured one week before by the presidium of the Moldovan parliament dominated by the PF supporters. A resolution signed by the head of parliament Aleksandr Moshanu said that any demonstrations violating the law were inadmissible.

President Snegur suggested that the parliament's presidium should meet especially to define its attitude to what had happened on Sunday.

Demands Protection From People's Front

LD1011052191 Moscow Central Television First
Program Network in Russian 2207 GMT 9 Nov 91

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] Here is another report from Kishinev: Moldovan President Snegur has sent a letter to the parliamentary presidium, in which he urgently requests protection from attacks by the extremist wing of the Moldova People's Front. This was reported by the RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY today.

Snegur Only Candidate in Presidential Elections

LD0811200591 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1000 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Mircea Snegur, the current president, will be the only candidate at the upcoming presidential elections in Moldova. The two other candidates have left the stage, the ANI agency reports. Specifically, Grigoriy Yeremey, first secretary of the now banned Moldova Communist Party, who was nominated candidate for the post of head of the republic, has withdrawn his candidacy. He explained his decision by the complex socio-political situation in the republic which is not propitious to holding elections. Grigoriy Malarchuk, the other candidate, has also declined registering his candidacy.

Druc Believes in Unification With Romania

AU0811152291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
1425 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 8/11/1991—Whether Bessarabia will unite with Romania overnight, in a day, a year or maybe a decade, nobody can say for sure, said Moldova's ex-Premier Mircea Druc in an interview for the daily "DIMINEATA." "Nobody can indicate a deadline, but what I know for sure is that there shall be union," insisted the former prime minister.

It must be understood that when we unite with Romania, we shall dictate our conditions both to Bucharest, Kiev and Moscow. And when I say we, I mean Chisinau [Kishinev] and Cernauti [Chernovtsy]. This time the Union shall not occur like in 1918. We are approaching the 21st century and we must seek a civilized formula for the Union. Representatives from Iasi, from Cluj, Chisinau, Cernauti and Bucharest, they must all gather and discuss the matter in all its aspects. History shall not repeat, that is with Bucharest as a substitute for Moscow, definitely not.

Mr. Druc categorically excludes the possibility that Moldova should become a sort of republic within United Romania as Bessarabia used to be within the Soviet Union.

Prime Minister Comments

*AU0911213991 Bucharest Radio Romania Network
in Romanian 2000 GMT 9 Nov 91*

[Text] In an interview granted in Chisinau [Kishinev] to our radio correspondent, the prime minister of the Republic of Moldova, Valeriy Muravskiy, stressed the need for integration with Romania on all levels, saying that the recent visit he paid to Bucharest was important to create conditions to accelerate this process of integration. Muravskiy gave examples of the factors that blocked the achievement of the intergovernmental accord signed between the Republic of Moldova and Romania, mentioning the lack of hard currency to pay for mutual deliveries of goods and resources. He said that an accord has been convened and signed with Romanian Prime Minister Theodor Stolojan, through which a mixed bank will be opened in Bucharest as soon as possible.

In connection with the Economic Community Treaty of sovereign states signed in Moscow by the Republic of Moldova, Muravskiy stressed that his country will agree to the economic formula and nothing else. Muravskiy said: We will not accept and will not sign any political formula and will not sign any political, military, or any other type of accord.

The Government of the Republic of Moldova deemed it necessary to sign that accord, taking into consideration the future and the consideration of not weakening economic connections.

Referring to the major objections made by the Republic of Moldova to the economic treaty of the sovereign states, Muravskiy said: If our position will not be taken into consideration in finding solutions to one problem or another, the Republic of Moldova will not participate in the community.

Parliament Appeals for Calm in Dnestr Republic

*LD1111122191 Moscow Central Television First
Program Network in Russian 1000 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[Text] The Presidium of the Moldovan parliament has appealed to the residents of Dnestr Republic for accord and reconciliation. Deputies hope that reason and wisdom will triumph and that the people who have lived together for centuries in this small, long-suffering area will find a common language.

Official on Attitudes Toward Military Service

*LD1111212191 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1405 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[By TASS correspondent Fedor Angeli]

[Text] Kishinev, 11 Nov (TASS)—The Moldovan leadership does not object to young men from the republic serving under contract in the Soviet Army and Navy,

Major General Viktor Nazarov, Moldova's military commissar, has told a TASS correspondent.

Touching upon the matter of alternative service, he referred to the results of a sociological survey. He said that almost 5,600 of the more than 12,000 young men questioned want to do alternative service. Of those liable for the draft, 7,000 prefer to serve in the ranks of the USSR Armed Forces. It is notable that 60 percent of them are willing to do their duty anywhere in the country, while 40 percent of young men intend to serve only on the territory of Moldova.

The military commissar noted in particular that the number of deserters amongst servicemen drafted from the republic is growing. Their complaints about humiliation and beatings, to put it mildly, do not always correspond to reality. This has been confirmed by many on-the-spot checks, carried out in the presence of representatives of Moldova's State Department for Military Affairs.

Viktor Nazarov believes that desertion is encouraged by certain leaders of public movements, in pursuit of political objectives. According to Nazarov, the Military Procuracy has dozens of examples of offenses and serious crimes committed by deserters and conscripts while evading service in the Army.

Ukraine**Kravchuk Views Economic Treaty, Independence**

*LD0811212491 Moscow Central Television First
Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT 8 Nov 91*

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] Today Leonid Kravchuk, Ukrainian president, held a news conference in Kiev in connection with the Ukraine's joining the Economic Community Treaty. As is known, the main obstacle to the Ukraine's signing of this treaty up to the last moment were issues concerning the destiny of former Union property. This was also discussed at the news conference today in Kiev.

[V. Lyaskalo] The Ukraine's parliamentarians have taken a time-out until 1 December and have departed for their constituencies to campaign for presidential candidates and to get the electorate in the mood for the referendum on the recognition of the act of the independence of the Ukraine. I am sure that the people of the Ukraine will vote for independence, Kravchuk, chairman of the Supreme Soviet, said at a news conference. I very much want this figure to be 85 percent, and no less, so that it is possible to talk about the spiritual maturity of our people, added Leonid Makarovich. There were many questions at the news conference on the recent signing of the treaty in Moscow. This is no kind of political noose around the neck of the independent Ukraine, as some think, said Kravchuk. Even after ratification, we will only see the main principle of

interrelations between partners in it. Bilateral treaties between the former republics will have much greater and real force and, of course, agreements with Russia are our top priority. And so, incidentally, immediately after the signing on 6 November, tension was removed from reciprocal supplies. Now our miners, for instance, will receive the full amount of the necessary timber and Russia will receive wide-bore pipes. But we will never sign such a treaty, emphasized Kravchuk, which contains even the slightest hint of certain governing central bodies. The center has fully exhausted itself, and this is obvious to everyone.

Views Economic Treaty Signing

LD1111164491 Berlin ADN in German
1610 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Kiev (ADN)—The Ukraine has only initialled the Economic Community Treaty, but has not yet signed it. Supreme Soviet Chairman Leonid Kravchuk pointed this out to the press in Kiev on Monday, according to a report from the NEGA agency. The initialling by Prime Minister Fokin simply means that the Ukraine is not withdrawing from the process of negotiation on the creation of a unified economic area. The signing could however only take place after the ratification of the treaty by the parliament, Kravchuk said. The Ukraine would not recognize any central organs but would insist on coordination structures. So far eight of the twelve republics of the Soviet Union have signed the Economic Community Treaty. On 6 November the heads of government of Moldova and the Ukraine initialled the treaty.

Speaking of the negotiations with Russia, the parliamentary leader said that the Ukraine is being supplied by the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic with petroleum, natural gas, timber and coal. President Yeltsin has allowed direct contacts with factories and regions in Russia. According to Kravchuk, the Ukraine wants to create its own Army, its own currency, a banking and customs system of its own and to join various international financial organizations.

Cabinet of Ministers Bans Export of Goods

LD1111232991 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1814 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Kiev, 11 Nov (TASS)—A decision by the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers bans the export from the republic's territory of goods and services that have been produced by its enterprises and organizations, and that are subject to licensing if licenses were issued in 1991 by authorized bodies of the USSR and other republics, unless they have been endorsed by the Ukrainian Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations. The main purpose of this document is to protect the interests of the sovereign republic in external market.

The decision instructs the Ukrainian Ministry of Economics to submit to the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers

by 15 November a list of goods and services for import for which quotas should be set and licenses should be issued in 1992, and the Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations to draw up an application form for obtaining licences. The ministry is empowered to draw the attention of foreign economic departments of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic and other republics to the illegal nature of the issue of licenses for products manufactured in the Ukraine. A state duty on the total payment envisaged by an agreement has been set for the issuance of an export or an import license. Moreover, its size cannot be less than 250 foreign currency rubles.

Official Views Defense Plans, Nuclear Weapons

AU1211130491 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
7 Nov 91 pp 1,13

[Interview with Lieutenant General Vasyl Durdinets, chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Council Standing Commission for Defense and State Security Matters, by Jan Zizka; place and date not given: "The Ukraine's Territory Is Indivisible"]

[Text] Vasyl Durdinets, chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Council Standing Commission for Defense and State Security Matters, led the parliamentary delegation that came to the CSFR in search of experience for establishing its own Armed Forces.

[Zizka] The Ukrainian parliament recently decided to establish republican Armed Forces. What does this mean in practice?

[Durdinets] The decree on the Armed Forces and their subordination to the Ukrainian Supreme Council proceeds from the republic's declaration of independence. The right to our own Armed Forces was contained in the declaration adopted in July 1990 on the Ukraine's state sovereignty. Armed Forces are one of the characteristic features of statehood. We have begun to form a legislative base incorporating our concept for defense and for establishing these forces. At the same time, the Ukraine should become a neutral state that does not possess nuclear weapons and that is not a member of any military bloc. When we establish our Armed Forces, we will proceed from the principle of reasonable sufficiency [rozumna dostatecnost]. Apart from the republican Army, collective strategic defense forces—common to all the republics of the former USSR—will be deployed on the Ukraine's territory. Our republic will contribute financially to their operation and will dispatch recruits.

[Zizka] How do you perceive the chronological scenario for this?

[Durdinets] The Armed Forces will be established in three stages. In the first stage laws will be prepared, a republican defense ministry will be created, and negotiations will take place with Soviet organs. Let me stress that, as far as we are concerned, this will involve a legal and democratic course of action.

[Zizka] And the other stages?

[Durdinets] A reduction in the number of personnel will be involved in the second stage. The third stage, beginning in 1994 or 1995, will be a culmination of all our preparatory work. The entire process will take a minimum of four or five years.

[Zizka] What if the Ukraine's decision meets with disagreement or apprehension from the other republics?

[Durdinets] We submitted the concept for establishing our own Armed Forces at negotiations in Moscow attended by the other republics. We became convinced during the August putsch that we cannot guarantee our statehood and sovereignty without establishing our own Armed Forces.

[Zizka] So, you think there is no danger to your relationship with the other republics?

[Durdinets] We will endeavor to resolve problems, should any evolve, by means of consultations and by concluding the appropriate agreements and treaties.

[Zizka] What is the Ukraine's position regarding the nuclear weapons on its territory?

[Durdinets] It is clearly stated in the declaration on state sovereignty that the Ukraine will gradually become a state without nuclear weapons. Today we are not a sovereign nuclear state, as the nuclear weapons on our territory are not Ukrainian. We are embarking on a path of gradual nuclear disarmament essentially under international control. We are interested in the complete destruction of all the nuclear weapons and their components deployed on the Ukraine's territory. We support the initiatives of Presidents Bush and Gorbachev in the nuclear disarmament sphere. The Ukraine is one of the USSR's legal successors and will adhere to the treaty on limiting strategic assault weapons. However, we are fundamentally opposed to redeploying nuclear weapons from the Ukraine on any other territory.

[Zizka] You do not agree, in that case, with the statements made by certain Russian representatives that Soviet nuclear weapons should be concentrated on Russian territory?

[Durdinets] No. We absolutely disagree. Their destruction is the only thing possible.

[Zizka] Let us now turn to another issue often discussed in our country—Subcarpathian Ruthenia. In your opinion, how would the Ukraine react to an attempt to declare independence or to the Subcarpathian Ruthenians' endeavor to annex themselves to another state?

[Durdinets] The declaration on the Ukraine's independence states that the republic's territory is inviolable and indivisible. We proceed from this principle. It is necessary to obviate the steps taken by extremists, steps that could destabilize the situation. Therefore, the Ukrainian Supreme Council has adopted a law on criminal responsibility for activity endangering the republic's territorial integrity. However, we do not want to intimidate anyone. We want the border issues to be resolved by democratic and legal means and not by acts of violence. I myself come from Subcarpathian Ruthenia and I can assure you that this region perceives itself to be an element of an independent Ukraine. The local regional council [sovet] is of the same opinion.

[Zizka] However, regardless of this, it is known that there are political forces here that are pushing for secession.

[Durdinets] Yes. Therefore, we have to consider the situation, conduct a referendum if the need arises, and consult with the people. The main principle, supported by us and deputies from the regional council, is that everything must be resolved within the framework of a united Ukrainian state.

[Zizka] Well, let us say that a referendum is held and that the majority expresses itself in favor of Subcarpathian Ruthenia's secession from the Ukraine. What then?

[Durdinets] I can only give you my personal opinion. All the specific problems are being dealt with by experts. For example, I would support the idea of creating a free economic zone in Subcarpathian Ruthenia. However, it is necessary, first and foremost, to guarantee people of all nationalities equal conditions for their free development and to respect their traditions and characteristics. The appropriate measures have already been adopted.

[Zizka] Thank you for the interview.

Fire Reported at Chernobyl Nuclear Plant

*PM1111112591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
11 Nov 91 p 3*

[Untitled item from roundup of PRAVDA correspondents' reports under the "In Brief" rubric]

[Text] Feelings were still running high following the second fire at the Chernobyl AES [nuclear electric power station], and work to clear up its aftereffects in turbine generator No. 4 was still in progress when an electrical cable caught fire nearby, in the machine hall of power unit no. 1. It is a good thing the regulation automatic fire-extinguishing system came into operation and that 15 firefighting vehicles complete with crews were there in next to no time. Could we be sitting on a nuclear powder keg?

Interrepublic Affairs

Gorbachev Mediates Armenia-Azerbaijan Border

OW1011161391 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1345 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At a meeting in Moscow, on November 8, chaired by Mikhail Gorbachev, representatives of the Armenian and Azerbaijan leadership agreed to create a special 10-kilometre zone along the borders between the two republics in order to terminate the conflict, informed sources in Yerevan and Baku told IF [INTERFAX].

According to these sources, the meeting was attended by president of Azerbaijan, Ayaz Mutalibov; first vice-chairman of the Armenian Supreme Council, Babken Ararktsyan (Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan was ill); and Armenia's acting prime minister, Grant Bagrtayan.

Among the participants were also USSR Defence Minister Shaposhnikov, USSR Interior Minister Barannikov, Chief of the General Staff V. Lobov, Commander of the Frontier Troops Kalinichenko and Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Operational Management of the Economy Volskiy.

The parties agreed that within a week, the USSR Interior Ministry, in conjunction with the USSR Defence Ministry and with the two republics, will put Armenia's and Azerbaijan's border regions under control. To do so, a special 10-kilometre zone (5 kilometres wide on each side will be created along the border.

Also, there are plans to resume, within a three-days' time, gas supplies to Armenia through Azerbaijan's Kazakhsky region.

The energy blockade organized by Azerbaijan has already caused stoppages of the majority of enterprises in Armenia.

Meeting Establishes 10 KM Zone

OW1011235291 Moscow INTERFAX in English
2057 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On November 8, representatives of the Armenian and Azerbaijani Governments met in Moscow under the chairmanship of President Mikhail Gorbachev. They agreed to establish a ten-kilometer special zone along the border between the two republics in order to put an end to conflict. Azerbaijan is supposed to reinstate the flow of gas to Armenia within three days.

Azerbaijan's energy blockade has already caused production to break down at most of Armenian industrial enterprises. In three weeks, Armenia hopes construction

will be completed on a pipeline from Georgia, where Armenia could receive a portion of its necessary energy supplies.

Official Denies Zone Established

LD1011220491 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 2125 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Moscow, 10 Nov (TASS)—The problems of supplying Armenia with fuel, which arose at the beginning of the week, remain unresolved by all accounts. This is borne out by a report which reached TASS this evening from Armenia's permanent mission in Moscow. It is signed by Babken Ararktsyan, first deputy chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet.

The republican representative recalled that at the initiative of USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev, a meeting was held in the Kremlin last Friday between the leaders of Azerbaijan and Armenia in order to examine the question of restoring gas supplies to Armenia. The republican representative stated that at the meeting "persistent attempts had been made to achieve serious political concessions from Armenia," in particular the creation of a border buffer zone. Moreover, says the letter which has reached TASS, there were "no guarantees of security for the population of Nagorno-Karabakh."

In this connection, the official representative of Armenia rejected a report in Sunday's Russian Television program Vesti that an agreement had been reached between the two republics to set up a buffer zone on the border. He said that this information "did not correspond to reality;" "no agreements were signed in Moscow and the question of freeing the gas pipeline remains unresolved." According to Babken Ararktsyan, the Vesti report "was clearly pursuing provocative aims."

Armenian Deputy Says Talks Focus on Gas Supply

LD1211042991 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0200 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Here is a report from Azerbaijan: The Azerbaijan information agency reports that Babken Ararktsyan, first deputy chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet, said that at the talks between representatives of the Armenian and Azerbaijani leadership, which are currently under way in Moscow chaired by Gorbachev, the main attention has been devoted to the resumption of gas supplies to Armenia. Ararktsyan said in an interview with an INTERFAX correspondent on Monday that the issue of setting up a special 10-km zone along the Armenian-Azerbaijani border has been raised at the meeting. However, the Armenian side, he says, has assessed this as crude pressure on Azerbaijan [as heard] which does not correspond to the spirit and letter of the Zheleznovodsk agreements. A demand has been put forward to turn the gas pipeline immediately on without any preliminary conditions. According to Ararktsyan, no documents have been signed.

Ararktsyan also notes that the negotiating process between Armenia and Azerbaijan aimed at settling the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and environs, which has been started in Zheleznovodsk on the initiative of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic and Kazakh presidents, will resume on 15 November.

Armenian Foreign Minister Discusses Talks

LD1111225391 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2102 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Report by Correspondent V. Budnikov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Only three weeks ago U.S. citizen Raffi Ovanisyan was working as a lawyer in sunny California. Today, as the Armenian Minister of Foreign Affairs, he gave a news conference at the Armenian permanent mission in Moscow. [Begin recording—video shows Ovanisyan, seated next to interpreter, then question from the floor] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Minister, on the 8th, INTERFAX reported that at a meeting between Azerbaijan and Armenian representatives, with Gorbachev as intermediary, an understanding was reached that Soviet troops would create a 10-km security zone on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan. What is your attitude towards this project?

[Ovanisyan in English with translation by interpreter] We regard this invitation to us by the center, by Gorbachev, as an attempt, together with the government of Azerbaijan, to create a 10 km zone, the main aim of which, in the minister's terms is the complete isolation of Nagorno-Karabakh so as to decide its fate in under conditions of complete blockade and isolation. [end recording]

[Budnikov] The minister stated that the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh will not find a solution until all sides realize that the resolution of the conflict lies only in recognizing the right of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh to self-determination. Raffi Ovanisyan said that Armenian President Ter-Petrosyan and he are going on a forthcoming trip to the United States and Canada to establish normal and regular relations with the United States and Armenia.

Armenia

President Ter-Petrosyan Inaugurated 11 Nov

LD1111144891 Moscow TASS in English 1314 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Boigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan November 11 TASS—Armenia's first president Levon Ter-Petrosyan was officially inaugurated today during a special meeting of the republic's

Supreme Soviet. As earlier reported, Levon Ter-Petrosyan scored a sweeping victory during the October 16 republican elections by polling 83.03 per cent of the votes.

Inauguration at Legislature

NC1111155091 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] The Armenian anthem was heard at 1100 at the republic's Supreme Soviet, opening the special session of the Supreme Soviet devoted to swearing in the republic's president.

Babken Ararktsyan, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, opened the session and gave the rostrum to Levon Ter-Petrosyan, the first president ever elected by the people.

The republic's president took the following oath: In assuming the post of president of the Armenian Republic, I swear to be the guarantor of the protection of the republic's Constitution and laws, independence and democracy, and of citizens' security, rights, and freedoms.

Catholicos of all Armenians Vazgen I blessed the first president of the republic and conveyed his good wishes.

Levon Ter-Petrosyan then delivered a speech. He said he is leaving for the United States and Canada today to meet with U.S. President George Bush and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

The chairman of the session once again congratulated the republic's president and Vice President Gagik Arutyunyan for having assumed complex and responsible duties at such a grave time for the republic and he wished Levon Ter-Petrosyan success on his first visit abroad in his capacity as president.

[Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian at 1215 GMT on 11 November reports that Levon Ter-Petrosyan will meet President Bush on 14 November and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney on 15 November. The report adds: "The republic's president will be accompanied by new Armenian Foreign Minister Raffi Hovhannisyan and Chief of Presidential Staff Shahen Karamanukyan."]

Speaks at Inauguration

OW1111165091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1400 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Levon Ter-Petrosyan, who emerged victorious from the presidential elections on October 16, has been sworn in as president of Armenia on November 11, at a special session of Armenia's Supreme Council. Mr. Ter-Petrosyan swore on a 7th-century Bible from the Hatnadaran library of ancient manuscripts. On the same day, Vice-President Gagik Arutyunyan assumed his

official duties. At the inauguration ceremony the two officials were blessed by the Catholicos of all Armenians, Vazgen I.

Mr. Ter-Petrosyan said that the Union of Sovereign States and market economy had no alternative. Touching upon Armenia's relationships with Azerbaijan, he said that he would be guided by "the spirit of the Zheleznovodsk communique" on settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh and in the border regions of the two republics. The president said he would work for ensuring the implementation of the agreement through talks. He also spoke in favour of establishing friendly relations with neighbouring Turkey and Iran.

Mr. Ter-Petrosyan said that Armenia would create favourable conditions for attracting foreign capital, and take measures to protect its domestic market. In this connection, he said, there are plans to organize a national customs service and, in the future, to introduce a national currency.

At all appearances, said the Armenian president, the republic will have to switch over to free prices earlier than planned, which is caused by the policies of the Russian Federation's leaders. However, price limits will be put on individual goods and effective compensation measures will be envisaged for the low-income groups.

Mr. Ter-Petrosyan said that there would be no hunger during the winter and that the "minimal needs will be met".

He also said that if in a 12-months time at least three-quarters of the programme he had proposed was not implemented, he would hold a referendum on confidence.

Outlines Policies

LD1111185591 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1600 GMT 11 Nov 91

[SNARK report by Armen Dulyan]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Levon Ter-Petrosyan made a speech. He noted: Because of instability and anarchy in the former Soviet Union, the republic has found itself in a most severe crisis. The president promised to present an extensive program of future actions at the beginning of next year. In the meantime, he expounded the main directions of his policy: to perfect the system of state power and management; to provide equal opportunities for all socio-political organizations; to avert a merger of the state and cooperatives sectors; and to set up a ministry of defense and national armed subunits.

Levon Ter-Petrosyan stated that during the course of next year he intends fully to complete the privatization of agriculture, the food and light industries, trade, and other areas, leaving only power engineering enterprises, the mineral and raw material complex, and heavy industry under the jurisdiction of the state. He also noted that it is essential to create a legislative base by the

end of the year in order to attract foreign capital, and to adopt measures to protect the republic's market. Ter-Petrosyan said he favored participation by Armenia in all interrepublican structures, enabling it to avert undesirable shocks.

The president expressed the certainty that success in implementing a great deal of what is planned will be achieved in as little as a year. Otherwise, Ter-Petrosyan stated, I am ready once more to ask for the people's trust through a referendum. On the subject of relations with Azerbaijan, the president confirmed adherence to the spirit of the Zheleznovodsk communique and stressed his resolve to obtain implementation of quadripartite accords.

Discusses Energy Crisis

LD1211015191 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1940 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 11 Nov (TASS)—Armenia now finds itself in an exceptionally difficult energy crisis, said Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan, speaking on Monday at his inauguration ceremony. The reason for the crisis, he said, is the situation of instability and lack of authority in the Soviet Union, as well as the unreliable nature of interrepublican economic ties.

The Armenian Government, said Ter-Petrosyan, has taken a number of measures to conserve electricity. It is evident, however, he stressed, that to overcome the crisis, it is necessary to bring into play additional and more influential political and economic levers. The search for and application of such levers remains a subject of constant concern for the leadership of Armenia, noted Ter-Petrosyan. As for food supplies to the republic, according to the president, "nothing threatens meeting the population's minimum basic requirements this winter."

Notes Priority Issues

LD1111215691 Moscow TASS in English
2145 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan November 11 TASS—The creation of an independent law-governed state, multi-party society and free market economy are the priorities of the political course of Levon Ter-Petrosyan, inaugurated today the first Armenian president.

Speaking of the top-priority tasks in the sphere of state building and interior policy, the president noted the following:

—The upgrading of the existing system of state power within the shortest possible period of time,

- The legislative-based division between the legislative, executive and juridical powers,
- The encouragement of legislative activities of the parliament and the consolidation of independence of the juridical power.

The Armenian Defence Ministry will be established to control the civil defence system, the voluntary society for cooperation with the Army, the Navy and the Air Force, military commissariats and the National Guard, established on the basis of Interior Ministry formations.

Tasks in the social and economic sphere include:

- The comprehensive privatization within the nearest six-twelve months of industrial enterprises to process agricultural raw materials, construction, light and food industries, trade and service sphere with the preservation for a certain period of the state monopoly in the power, mineral and raw material, and the heavy industries,
- The creation of a legislative base (laws on foreign investments and taxes) to provide for more easy inflow of foreign capital by the end of this year.

The president spoke of the expediency of the adoption of measures to protect the interior market of the republic, creation of Armenian customs service and the soonest introduction of a national currency unit.

Touching on the foreign political sphere, the president stressed the need to boost the activities of the republican Foreign Ministry and establish solid relations with all the countries of interest for Armenia.

We should continue the signing of bilateral economic and political treaties with all the republics of the former union, primarily with Russia, the Ukraine and Kazakhstan, Ter-Petrosyan stressed.

Speaking of relations with Azerbaijan, Ter-Petrosyan noted Armenia should be guided by the spirit of the Zheleznovodsk communique and through peaceful negotiations achieve an obligatory fulfilment of all agreements mentioned in the document.

If we manage to fulfil at least two thirds of what we have planned, next winter we will be in much better situation, the president said. Otherwise, he is ready to turn again for people's vote through referendum.

Energy Sector 'State of Emergency' Introduced

NC1111212791 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Yerevan, 11 Nov (ARMENPRES)—As a result of the prolonged blockade and the complete closure of gas pumping stations the republic's industrial sector has disintegrated and the power and fuel supply to the population have been disrupted; the situation is particularly serious in the earthquake zone.

The Armenian Council of Ministers has adopted a decision "on the situation existing in the Armenian fuel-energy sector," which aims at finding ways to surmount this difficult situation and implementing temporary emergency measures.

According to this decision, a state of emergency has been introduced in the republic's energy sector. Instructions have been issued to introduce a special power supply regime. A republican operative commission has been set up to coordinate the work under conditions of a state of emergency.

The Armenian Trade Ministry, the Armenian Cooperatives Administration, and "Haynavtamterk" [Armenian petroleum products association] will be sending additional coal, stove and diesel fuel, and gas-lamps, candles, and insulating materials for sale to the rural population. "Haynavtamterk" has been given permission to procure fuel at market prices for thermal power stations.

[Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service at 1215 GMT on 11 November 1991 also reports a breakdown in power transmission lines in Yerevan. The administration of the Armenian Electricity Authority "has expressed fear that if the situation continues the capital's power network could sustain serious damage. Repairs could take time and substantial resources. The present situation is the result of an increase in power load." ARMENPRES quotes Feliks Akobdzhanyan, head of the Armenian Electricity Authority, as saying: "The Armenian Government is taking measures to quickly lift the blockade on railroads and the gas pipeline. If we do not want to be subject to the whims of our neighbors—who resort to brigand acts along the railroads and gas pipeline—in the future we should start preparations now to reopen Armenia's nuclear power station. Because the nuclear station is so complex it needs up to one year to become operational."]

Gas Reserves Amount to 85 Million Cubic Meters

OW1211022791 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1710 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Because of the economic siege, organized by Azerbaijan, Armenia has only 85 million cubic metres of gas which constitute the republic's reserve fund for the winter, the production amalgamation Armgasprom [Armenian petroleum products association] told IF [INTERFAX].

The amalgamation's executive said that the Armgasprom leaders were now in Georgia, where the gas pipeline linking the city of Marneuli and Armenia was being laid. The construction is to be completed in three weeks.

Meanwhile, gas supplies through this pipeline will hardly solve the problem, he said. He also noted that the best

solution would be to reach an agreement with the Russian Federation on the supplies of gas and other types of fuel.

Azerbaijan

Mutalibov Says Armenia Pressuring Azerbaijan

OW1211025991 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1710 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Azerbaijan's President Ayaz Mutalibov said that during his 7-hour talks with Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow on November 8, whose first round was attended by Armenia's representatives, the Armenian side had once again tried to put pressure on the Azerbaijan leaders through the center.

Speaking in Azerbaijan's parliament on November 9, Mr. Mutalibov said that the talks in Moscow had focused on the termination of gas supplies to Armenia through the gas pipeline running through Azerbaijan. He said he had announced in Moscow that gas supplies had been cut in accordance with the will of the people of Azerbaijan and in response to the savage murder of civilians by Armenian militants.

Speaking about the situation in the republic, Mr. Mutalibov stressed that it was extremely tense. Railway communication with Moscow and other cities had been broken following the events in Checheno-Ingushetia, he said. Trains carrying food for Azerbaijan stand idle and provocative rumors are circulating among the Russian population and the Soviet Army units located in Azerbaijan. Such a state of affairs may complicate the situation in the republic.

Mr. Mutalibov urged the population of Azerbaijan to unite in order to deal with the crisis, above all with the economic problems.

Compressor Stations To Stay Idle

LD1111125291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1100 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Azerbaijani President Ayaz Mutalibov has supported cutting off the supply of gas to Armenia. Speaking at a session of the republic's Supreme Soviet, he said that compressor stations will remain idle until the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh is stabilized and until Yerevan stops interfering in the affairs of the autonomous oblast.

Parliament Asks Support of Republic Legislatures

OW1111165291 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1400 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In view of a serious aggravation of the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh and in the regions of Azerbaijan

bordering on Armenia, the parliament of Azerbaijan has made an appeal to the supreme councils of the sovereign republics.

The appeal says that sovereign Azerbaijan as a target of "controlled, coordinated and large-scale aggression" on the part of Armenia's official quarters.

"We declare, fully aware of our responsibility, that since Azerbaijan announced its state independence and refused to sign the economic agreement in Moscow, military operations against civilians have become even more intensive."

The parliament of Azerbaijan expressed hope that the supreme councils of the sovereign republics would show solidarity with the Azerbaijani parliament in such cardinal questions as inviolability of the borders and the territorial integrity of the republics.

Mutalibov Thanks Turkey's Ozal for Recognition

NC1111203191 Baku Radio Baku Network
in Azeri 1800 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Azerbaijani President Ayaz Mutalibov and the president of Turkey [words indistinct] today. Ayaz Mutalibov conveyed his thanks to Turgut Ozal and the Turkish Government for official recognition of Azerbaijan's independence. [Words indistinct] Ayaz Mutalibov has invited Turgut Ozal to Azerbaijan, and the latter has invited Mutalibov to Turkey. Both presidents gratefully received the invitations.

Popular Front Supports Chechen Republic

OW1111170391 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1400 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Popular Front of Azerbaijan has promised "political support" to the national-liberation movement of the Chechen republic, head of the delegation of the Popular Front of Azerbaijan, Fazil Gadzhiev, told IF [INTERFAX] after talks in Grozny with deputies of the Chechen parliament. Mr. Gadzhiev said that during the talks agreement as reached on delegating the Popular Front's special representatives to Grozny. Besides that, on November 13, the faction of the Popular Front in Azerbaijan's parliament intends to raise the question of official recognition of the sovereign Chechen republic.

Meanwhile, the massive meeting continues in Grozny's Freedom Square. The speakers read letters and resolutions of residents of Grozny and other cities of the republic demanding that the state of emergency be lifted.

Government Orders Review of Soviet Army Property*LD1111202991 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service
in English 2000 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[Text] The Government of Azerbaijan has ordered the stock-taking of military hardware and property of Soviet Army units deployed in the republic. Speaking at a meeting with the military, the Azeri Prime Minister Gasan Gasanov threatened to use force in case of insubordination. In the meantime, a government statement read out on local television warned against unlawful actions towards servicemen and their dependents.

Georgia**President Asks Yeltsin To End State of Emergency***AU1111100991 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network
in Georgian 0514 GMT 11 Nov 91*

[Letter to Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic (RSFSR), from Zviad Gamsakhurdia, president of the Republic of Georgia; dated in Tbilisi on 9 November]

[Text] Dear Boris Nikolayevich,

The Georgian people are following with anxiety the course of events in Chechen-Ingushetia. We did not expect the declaration of a state of emergency and curfew there, as we have always viewed you as a fighter for people's independence and a defender of democracy; you have proved this in your support for the independence movement in the Baltic countries and in the struggle against reactionary [word indistinct; Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian at 1800 GMT on 10 November in a report on the letter to Yeltsin says: "...against the reactionary State Committee for the State of Emergency."].

The sharp turn in the course of events now fills us with anxiety. The freedom-loving Chechen people are threatened with danger. The escalation of violence in Chechen-Ingushetia could undermine your authority in the eyes of the people of the former Soviet empire who have struggled for freedom.

To avoid a further worsening of the situation in the Caucasus, we ask you to suspend the state of emergency in Grozny and respect the will of the Chechen people who are striving toward self-determination and freedom.

[Signed] Zviad Gamsakhurdia, president of the Republic of Georgia, on behalf of the many thousands of participants in the meeting held in Tbilisi on 9 November.

Appeal to UN on Chechen 'Genocide'*OW1111103891 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1710 GMT 10 Nov 91*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Georgia's President Zviad Gamsakhurdia has taken the emergency situation introduced in the Chechen-Ingush republic as a show of force against the Chechen people.

In a letter to the United Nations of November 9 he warned of a possible genocide of the Chechen nation "which has more than once suffered repression on the part of the USSR."

Z. Gamsakhurdia has appealed to the world community to raise its voice against "Russia's lawless actions" and requested UN observers to be sent to Grozny and southern Ossetia.

Mr. Gamsakhurdia has also sent a message to Boris Yeltsin urging him on behalf of the participants in the meeting held in Tbilisi on November 9, to revoke the state of emergency and "show respect for the Chechen people's aspiration for self-determination and freedom."

"The escalation of violence in the Chechen-Ingush republic," says the message may undermine your authority in the eyes of the peoples of the former Soviet empire, fighting for independence."

Gamsakhurdia Views Internal, International Issues*LD1011204191 Moscow Central Television First
Program Network in Russian 1315 GMT 10 Nov 91*

[Phone-in program with Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia and his press secretary, Georgiy Burdzhadze, hosted at the Moscow Ostankino studio by Central Television correspondent Andrey Skrablin, with the participation of Igor Nestorovich Golembiovskiy, editor in chief of IZVESTIYA, and Vitaliy Toviyeovich Tretyakov, editor in chief of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA—live; Gamsakhurdia and Burdzhadze are shown on a television screen in the Moscow studio speaking from the Georgian Supreme Soviet in Tbilisi]

[Excerpts] [Skryabin] Good day, esteemed television viewers. In today's program you will meet the president of the republic of Georgia. Zviad Konstantinovich Gamsakhurdia has agreed to reply live to questions put forward by television viewers and journalists. In connection with the fact that Georgian television studios remain silent, today's television bridge will connect the building of the Supreme Soviet in Tbilisi with the Ostankino studio in Moscow. Let me introduce the participants of this television bridge to you. In Tbilisi they are Zviad Konstantinovich Gamsakhurdia, the president of the Republic of Georgia—you can see him on your screens—and next to him there is Georgiy Burdzhadze, his press secretary. I have invited two editors in chief to our studio here. They are Igor Nestorovich Golembiovskiy, editor in chief of IZVESTIYA, and Vitaliy Toviyeovich Tretyakov, editor in chief of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. And I present this program. I am Andrey Skryabin, a journalist. I would like to attract your attention to the fact that you can contact us by phoning in. The numbers in Tbilisi are 989672,

989673, and 989674. These are phone numbers in Tbilisi—989672, 989673, and 989674. Our telephone in Moscow has several lines. The number is 2174563. You can ask questions of Mr. President, and express your point of view using these phone numbers. [passage omitted]

So we will start work. The phones are already ringing, and I am handing you over to Igor Nestorovich, if you please.

[Golembiovskiy] Good day to you, Mr. President. I would like to ask the first question of you, and the main thrust of it is as follows: The last session of the republic's Supreme Soviet suspended the law on political parties, and before asking you what the meaning of this act is, I must say that for me, personally, it brings to mind some unpleasant analogies. I can recall that in 1918 Lenin also temporarily suspended the activities of political parties, and you know we have only just managed to return to a multiparty system 72 or 73 years after this. Does this represent a threat to the democratic process which should be unfolding in the republic?

[Gamsakhurdia] First, I must note that your analogy is not totally correct. It is worth stopping to think before comparing me with Lenin, because in my view you are closer to him—not only in a geographical sense, but also ideologically speaking.

Regarding the suspension of the law, then this is connected with the state of emergency which is currently effective in Georgia. You probably know about this. Moreover, the part of the law which has been suspended is the part that concerns the matter of party registration.

You are probably aware of the fact that there are about 200 parties and organizations in Georgia which want to register, to receive a building and gain access to the press and television—and often they do not satisfy the demands made of parties in such cases. They can often be said to be criminal organizations, and some of them have turned out to be involved in the latest disorders in the center of our capital, in what can be described as bloody crimes.

Therefore the Procuracy has demanded time to find out about their activity, and until that time the suspension of the law on the registration of parties. So the initiative to suspend this law emanates not from the president, nor from the Supreme Soviet, but from the Procuracy, which is investigating, so to speak, criminal cases. This is the explanation. So I repeat, the comparison is not totally successful. [passage omitted]

I can see an opportunity in the given case to dispel that monstrous disinformation which is being disseminated through none other than Central Television, to the whole world, about Georgia, its president, and about the events in our republic. Therefore I want to dispel with facts and arguments—as you like, using these words—to dispel

this disinformation, and explain our stance regarding all the contemporary phenomena worrying the public. [passage omitted]

Information that bombardments of Tskhinvali with artillery and rockets have allegedly taken place every day, and continue now, is being constantly and persistently broadcast on Central Television. This is such a barefaced lie that everyone in Georgia, I assure you, laughs every day when they hear this disinformation. I ask you to come here. We will take you around. And so that you do not doubt our objectivity, we will give you the possibility to talk to the leadership of the Soviet Internal Troops stationed in Tskhinvali. I wonder why you have not thought until now to ask those very people—ones who could not be called Georgian fighters, or Georgian nationalists, as you sometimes say. Why do you not want to find out the truth from them? What sort of rockets can they have there? What sort of artillery does the Republic of Georgia have? And moreover, sometimes they even say that we have gone so far as to bombard Valdikavkaz with our rockets.

All this is very, very....[changes thought] It gives rise to such doubts, as if everything is being distorted and falsified, and all this pursues some sort of very far-reaching aims. You were talking about Nana Gongadze. I think she is not allowed to broadcast precise information, because the day before yesterday, when an announcer reported that Tskhinvali was being bombarded, Nana Gongadze started to talk about geographical and historical problems instead of saying directly that there were no bombardments. There were some cases, of course. They took place before 17 October. Some individuals have hail-dispersal rockets in their possession. Those are not battle rockets. They can cause certain damage to buildings. But those were single cases, carried out by individuals who are not subordinate to the authorities or to the government. Versions saying that massed bombardment of Tskhinvali, bombardment with rockets, is still going on are still circulating now. One can say directly that these fairy-tale versions cause this mistrust. [passage omitted]

[Tretyakov] I would perhaps like to draw this media theme to a close today. As far as I know, there were some doubts as to whether Central Television would offer Mr. Gamsakhurdia the opportunity of speaking live, and today this meeting, this speech has taken place, and there will be questions and answers.

At one and the same time, Georgian television journalists are on strike in Georgia. It was promised that the opposition would be allowed to appear on Georgian Television, but this promise has not been fulfilled, so they have once more gone on strike. I have a question for you, Mr. President. Is it possible that the leaders of the Georgian opposition will be given the opportunity to appear live on Georgian Television?

[Gamsakhurdia] You see, here, once more, the viewers have been given inaccurate information. All journalists

are reportedly on strike. A section of them are on strike, some of them, and it is those who joined the putsch, who joined the attempted state coup—the armed coup, incidentally, which took place in Georgia in September and October. This group is not only on strike, but they have also robbed and ruined Georgian Television. If you came to look at the state of the television building, then you would appreciate what sort of opposition figures these are, and what sort of democrats they are. You often report that the democrats are supposedly at the television building, while the dictator is seated in the government building, but you should see for yourselves what sort of democrats you can find there, what sort of opposition, and you should see for yourselves what they have done in the television building and on the streets of Tbilisi.

So I would ask you to study such issues carefully, and only then speak. With regard to access to the screen, they were given access to the screen, but they wanted to use their air time for the purpose of overthrowing the Government of Georgia, which was lawfully elected by the people. Therefore relations with them are worsening.

Furthermore, I would like to counter with a question for you. For example, at this present time, today, would you have offered this screen, on which you are appearing, to people like Yanayev, Yazov, and Kryuchkov? Would you bring them from jail, set them down in front of the camera, and allow them to put forward their ideas, so to speak, about how to overthrow the government and so on? Why don't you do this? These opposition people carried out exactly the same sort of activities as your Yanayev, Yazov, and others. One has to enter into our situation a little bit. [passage omitted]

[Gamsakhurdia] I have sent a message to USSR President Gorbachev in which I state that the question of any kind of treaty, of a political or economic nature, can only be examined after the independence of the Republic of Georgia is recognized. As the State Council calls us sovereign republics, we have the right to demand documentary confirmation of this and, as it were, juridical certification of the recognition of us, our republic, as a sovereign state. After this we can already see the possibility for all kinds of negotiations on the abovementioned questions.

But regarding the economic program, in brief, it is, of course, very difficult to set it out in such a short space of time. But I'll try, nevertheless. Our economic program is based on the principles of reorganizing, fully reorganizing, the existing economic system, of overcoming all the negative aspects of the socialist economy, and developing a free market economy. These are, of course, very general words, general phrases, but we are already progressing along this road. We are exerting great efforts to create our own currency, without which economic independence is unthinkable, economic reforms are unthinkable, and when we are reproached that they are not proceeding at a sufficient pace in our republic, this is, of course, connected with the fact that we still do not have

our own currency, we have no economic borders, and we still have no customs. All these reforms in our republic are planned in proportion with the creation of everything that I have just enumerated for you.

We have privatization—which, of course, is not proceeding as quickly as we would like—and you probably know very well what this results from, and what a difficult process this is, not only with us, but also in other republics, and that there are peculiarities here, there are mafias, there are clans that want to put this to their own benefit. It's very difficult to implement it sometimes without serious losses to the state, but we are, nevertheless, trying to carry out reforms which might finally bring us to a free market economy. This also depends primarily, of course, on the standpoint of the Western countries, which are as yet only reluctantly embarking on economic contacts. It is in this direction that we are trying to implement our economic program.

[Golembiovskiy] Thank you for your reply. To develop this question, can I just clarify one detail? There have been reports here that the republican prime minister, talking about the future economic system, cited the goal of building state capitalism. To what extent is this accurate?

[Gamsakhurdia] It is also disinformation, that originates from our political enemies—from whom, by the way, you get your information more and more often—and for some reason you only trust this information, only the hostile opposition, but you never try to get any information, official, solid, verified information, originating from our press center, for example.

And so, thanks to these sources, as it were, I will—if you will permit me—read out to you a number of reports carried by Central Television—which all of our listeners in Georgia would now confirm as pure fabrication and disinformation—alleging that democratic forces have seized the television center. Criminals and criminal gangs have seized the television center, have smashed them, have smashed this building, have robbed it, carried away all of the equipment, and organized an orgy there. There was a camp of bandits there in the television center and in the territory adjacent to it. So there were no democrats there. Democrats do not resolve matters with sub-machine guns, in the first place. As far as the attack on the TETS, the power station, the central electricity station in Tbilisi, which was carried out by this gang, it is simply being called a murder which is shrouded in mystery and an act for which no side has, it seems, taken responsibility. An attack on a state establishment did in fact take place. People were killed, and these democrats—as it were—carried it out.

Then it is stated that the democrats stood at the television center here, with candles in their hands. They did not stand there with candles, but with machine guns, mortars, and sub-machine guns. Shots and explosions resounded there constantly, and the circus building was occupied by them—where, incidentally, there was a gun

which was fired on the Ministry of Agriculture building. Then it is alleged, for example, that our forces attacked the settlement of (Shavnaba) and the camp of the Tengiz Kitovani guards. First, these are not guards; they are former guards, and are bandits today. It was alleged that at least five people died there. No one was killed, and no one died there.

These reports are being carried by your Central Television, relying on disinformation and provocateurs from this bandits' camp. It is being stated here, for example, that the guards, loyal to Gamsakhurdia and to the OMON [special purpose militia detachment], have seized the National Guard's base, and that there are dead. There were no people killed there. The base was occupied in a peaceful fashion. Then that Georgia is allegedly reinforcing Soviet socialist structures. Probably everyone knows what we have in common with Soviet structures. We have abolished Soviet power in full, and have banned the Communist Party. We have no socialist structures here. They are being transformed and, as it were, new structures are being created.

And then in Tskhinvali, for instance, it is alleged that rocket and artillery bombardment is going on, and refugees have exceeded 100,000. In actual fact, in South Ossetia, dear friends, the entire population, according to the latest census, is 98,000—Georgians and Ossetians. If 100,000 Ossetian refugees have fled from Tskhinvali, then no one is left. This is a question of simple arithmetic. Each day your television broadcasts that there are already almost 150,000 refugees from Tskhinvali and South Ossetia.

Strange things such as this are broadcast—also that there are many political prisoners in the prisons. There are no political prisoners. There are criminals, who have committed crimes, for which they would also be arrested in your country, and in any democratic state. [passage omitted]

The Tskhinvali region has always been called Inner Kartly. In 1922 a new term was invented by the Bolsheviks: South Ossetia. South Ossetia is not a geographical term. It is a term invented by the Bolsheviks, who annexed and occupied Georgia. And in order to seize this territory from Georgia, where there was an Ossetian population—and you know that other ethnicities also live in Georgia—they deliberately called this South Ossetia. That is the same, for instance, as our now calling Krasnodar Kray Northern Georgia, with the aim of seizing this Krasnodar Kray and tearing it away from Russia, and justifying ourselves by saying that Georgians live in Krasnodar Kray. There is a Georgian population there. There is the same logic used when they talk about a South Ossetia. There is no South Ossetia, and it has never existed. There is no such geographical term in nature, so to speak. [passage omitted]

So far, we are fighting in every way to not raise prices. You know, I have made every effort not to raise prices on bread, and this has been a public demand, for which I

was criticized by Sigua, former prime minister. To this day he declares this to be, so to speak, my main fault. But I don't know how a president can be accused for not raising prices. The opposite is more likely. But I cannot vouch for the future, because as you know we are so economically isolated, thanks to the center, in an economic blockade, and we ourselves don't know what this blockade will lead us to tomorrow.

We will, at least, take all the measures possible to prevent the economic situation from deteriorating, and the people from suffering. But the blockade that has been declared against us, and which the Russian parliament has recommended to the Russian president, goes beyond all bounds of ethics and humanity. Why is it necessary to declare a blockade on the entire people for some events that occurred down there in Tskhinvali—even, say, for the actions of gunmen? What's more, it is not just against the Georgian population. There are 80 nationalities living in Georgia, and they are not declaring a blockade on the Georgian people alone, although even they have done nothing to deserve it. But where is the fault of, for example, the 400,000 Russians, the 400,000 Azerbaijanis, or the 500,000 Armenians? What have they done to deserve being blockaded and having to suffer because the parliament of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic doesn't like the behavior of gunmen in Tskhinvali? Where is the logic, I ask you?

[Skryabin] Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Georgiy. Go ahead, Vitaliy.

[Tretyakov] I regret very much that Mr. President is giving such extensive replies, as we have very many questions, and I am afraid we won't have time to ask all of them. I have a quite specific question on economic problems, on economic reforms in Georgia. It is anticipated that land will be privatized, and I know that there is some delay with this project.

[Gamsakhurdia] Yes, there is.

[Tretyakin] What is causing it, in the first place, and second, does the privatization envisage distributing land to all citizens of Georgia, including Abkhaz, Ossetians, Russians, and not just Georgians?

[Gamsakhurdia] To all citizens, and I have to assure you that everyone who is currently living in Georgia, and is registered in Georgia, will receive citizenship and will receive land. But it has not proved possible as of yet to elaborate a land code, and the parliament cannot ratify the bill in question, because there are arguments about details. There are very many fine points, very many questions of detail. You know that Georgia is a mountainous country, and that there are regions where the question is being addressed of the population's attitude to privatization. Imagine that in certain areas they prefer state farms. There are debates and discussions under way. It is connected with this process, and not because, for example, we don't want to give land as property. But we have free leasing in operation, in which you can say that it's almost ownership of land, because the peasant is

master of the land, with full rights, only without the right to sell it—that's the only difference. But in fact you can say that privatization has already begun, and there are very many private farms, already several thousand. In practice I can even tell you that no law is needed here—the people and the peasants are, you could say, already privatizing the land directly, and are themselves taking possession of the land.

So a law would solve very little here. A law might simply bring some order into this process which, incidentally, is occurring anyway. No one is hindering the peasant. He can work any land, if only someone can be found to work the land, you know? This is our problem—as, incidentally, in Russia.

[Skryabin] Thank you very much.

[Gamsakhurdia] More questions, if you like....

[Golembiovskiy] Mr. President, there are very many letters, and television viewers will probably ask, if we do not ask the questions. There are many very similar questions—you answered many of them in your statements—but there is a whole group of questions connected with Abkhazia. Here is a very short and all-encompassing one from Mukhin, in the town of Tula: What kind of relations will Georgia build with Abkhazia in the future?

[Gamsakhurdia] In my view, relations will be normal. There are no complications at the moment which might give rise to apprehension. As you know, Abkhazians and Georgians are related peoples. They have lived together from time immemorial. A deterioration in relations only plays into the hands of our peoples' enemies. Both sides are aware of this, by the way—not just the Georgian side. A complication of the situation is not to be expected. Our relations have always been based on the principle of equality. Abkhazians have always enjoyed considerable rights in Georgia—very considerable ones, it can even be said. So nobody is infringing upon the interests of the Abkhazians, either cultural or ethnic ones. So there is no problem for the Abkhazians in Georgia. I want to say that, for everyone to hear.

[Tretyakov] Thank you. I have a question for the president of Georgia. It corresponds, incidentally, to a question from television viewer Aleksandr Sergeyevich Shirov. Your attitude toward the events in Chechno-Ingushetia, and toward Dudayev—as far as I know, you have welcomed Dudayev's ascension to power, and he has also welcomed you as president of Georgia. What is your attitude now to this great problem?

[Gamsakhurdia] Our principle is to respect the right to self-determination for all peoples. We cannot permit here, for example, an exception regarding the Chechen people. We are in favor of this, and it can be said that the Helsinki Union, whose chairman I am, sets itself precisely this aim of fighting for Georgia's sovereignty, self-determination for Georgia, and not only for Georgia. So, as it were, it supports the self-determination

of all peoples, but of course on their own territory. As far as.... [changes thought] We are sometimes reproached for not granting states to a number of national minorities in our country. But this is a rather unconvincing conclusion, because a people should be situated on its own territory in order to fight for self-determination and for independence. We are very concerned, very distressed, that a state of emergency has been introduced there.

I have asked—I have just sent a telegram to Mr. Yeltsin in which I ask him to lift this state of emergency and curfew so that the situation in the Caucasus will not escalate. In my opinion, all this must be resolved by peaceful means, all these issues.

[Skryabin] Mr. President, a great number of letters are connected in one or another fashion with the position of, well, the non-native population of Georgia. There are quite a lot of those left here....

[Gamsakhurdia] Yes, I see....

[Skryabin] May I read out to you the most typical ones, so that you have an idea of the character of the questions?

[Gamsakhurdia] Yes, go ahead.

[Skryabin] Now my parents live in Georgia, in an obscure remote village—this is what Selivanov, from Moscow writes—and they would like to move away from there, and buy a house on the territory of Russia. Are we likely to receive compensation for the house which will be left in Georgia? This is one question. Next, also from Moscow, Aleksandr Mikhailovich Gaus: I was born, grew up, and lived until I was 20 in the Georgian town of Poti; now I have been living in Moscow for 25 years. My mother is still there. How will I visit my mother? Have I got a right to apply for dual citizenship? And the last one which, so to speak, summarizes, or accumulates, the interests of everybody, is from Syp, from the town of Electrostal: Are there any safety guarantees for the lives of the Russian-speaking population under this president?

[Gamsakhurdia] Well, you see—I will start from the last one. The only danger to Russians and other nationalities living in Georgia at the moment is the possibility that Russia might impose economic sanctions on Georgia. Even this danger is a conditional one. After all, in such a case all of Georgia would be threatened by a deterioration in the economic situation. It would find itself in a disastrous position. That's the only threat. As far as the Georgian Government is concerned, they are given complete support and understanding. Representatives of all nationalities in Georgia are equal, it can be said. There are no problems whatsoever for the non-Georgian population. None at all. This is shown by the fact that 90 percent of the non-Georgian population voted for me at the presidential election and also voted for Georgia's independence at the referendum on 31 March. So there are absolutely no problems for the nonindigenous population here. In fact, the concepts of indigenous and nonindigenous do not even exist here. All are equal, and

all enjoy equal rights. Life is the same for everybody. As far as, for example, compensation is concerned—any time, whenever anyone wants to leave, they will receive compensation. By the way, those Ossetians, whom you often report to be refugees from Georgia—80 percent of them are not refugees, but people who want to emigrate. And who receive compensation, as a matter of fact—the majority of them have already received compensation, and left Georgia.

So no one forced them. They are emigrants, not refugees, and I'll thank you not to confuse those two concepts. But to emigrate and, as it were.... [changes thought] If, for example one were to accuse the government of Russia of, so to speak—that so many people are now emigrating from Russia to the West, it would be ridiculous. I think that's quite clear.

[Skryabin] Thank you.

[Gamsakhurdia] I think that's clear. We are willing to study all specific cases, let them apply to us, those people you've specified.

[Skryabin] Thank you very much. We have literally eight minutes more on the air, so I'll allow myself to read out several questions. Viktor Sokolov of Tbilisi asks: Do you not think, Mr. President, that some of your admirers, by pledging love to you and having nothing good to say of the opposition and your opponents, are doing you a dubious service, helping you to make more and more enemies? Are they not increasing the already existing split with your opponents? And a second question: Are you able to recognize crude flattery of yourself, and in the future nip it in the bud?

[Gamsakhurdia] I'm sorry, what figure of speech? Would you repeat the second question, please? Crude....

[Skryabin] Are you able to recognize crude flattery of yourself?

[Gamsakhurdia] Flattery, not gesture.... Yes, quite so. You know, I'd like to repeat Pushkin's words: Devoted without flattery. I don't like flattery, and I have to say that insincere praise is almost worse than abuse. So I don't welcome such praise, and don't—I'm not susceptible to—to such—praise. And I don't seek it. So I don't think I should be accused of liking to be praised, and having positive things said about myself. I try to listen to objective opinions about myself and act accordingly.

[Golembiovskiy] If you will allow me, Mr. President, there are a few questions which seem to me very important. They concern Georgia's international position. One Sinov, of Brest Oblast, asks succinctly: Why is the West dragging its feet over recognizing Georgian independence? After all, they've recognized Latvia, where the Russian-speaking population makes up 50 percent. Evidently the Russian-speaking population is not so crucial. But the question about recognition?

[Gamsakhurdia] You know, this applies not only to Georgia, but also to the Ukraine, Moldova, Armenia,

and all the republics that have declared independence. The West has not so far decided. Consequently, it's not a matter of Georgia, or of the state system or personalities. The West hasn't yet decided what line to take over the republics of the Soviet—the former Soviet Union. That's the whole point. They haven't decided their policy, haven't worked it out yet. And I think intensive discussion of all this is going on, as I know, and no doubt the fate of Georgia will be decided along with the fate of the other republics. That's my view.

[Skryabin] Thank you. Go ahead.

[Tretyakov] I would like—our time is coming to an end—I agree in part that the situation in the Caucasus is not having a very good effect on the people living here, and that the mass media are not recording everything. Our paper wrote about the establishment of the Confederation of Republics... [corrects himself] about setting up the Confederative Republic of the Mountain People of the Caucasus. To what extent do you support this idea, and the pan-Caucasus idea in general?

[Gamsakhurdia] Well, if it is based on justice, on justice and objectivity, yes, but what you have mentioned is not, in my view, a serious phenomenon, and it is headed by people who are not serious. It is, one might say, a purely symbolic phenomenon, and so it will not, I think, gain great support among the Caucasian peoples. And by the way, it also smacks somewhat of provocation. There have been some provocative statements by certain leaders of that movement, and of course I do not support or welcome that, but as for Caucasian solidarity, the solidarity of Caucasian peoples and, of course, mutual respect, well, I have always welcomed that.

[Tretyakov] We know that at yesterday's news conference at the Russian White House, Russian Vice President Rutskoy accused the four former republics of the Soviet Union—Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Georgia—of whipping up the events in Checheno-Ingushetia, of making the events in Checheno-Ingushetia worse. What is your attitude to this?

[Gamsakhurdia] In my opinion this is quite incorrect. This is unobjective. I very much regret that he has made this statement, because we have in no way facilitated—that is, in any way—there has been no interference on our part. We are not interfering in such processes. But we cannot—we cannot, so to speak—condemn such phenomena, because we are ourselves fighting for independence; we cannot, for example, oppose this or anything. As for engaging in incitement or anything resembling it, this has never occurred. It has never occurred, and we want all this to be settled peacefully. More than this—we do not want blood to be shed, or there to be any excesses. We have always been opposed to all such things.

[Skryabin] Thank you. Mr. President, here are two questions that have come from Tbilisi. Georgiy Abuladze from Tbilisi asks: You have experienced pressure from the regime for yourself and, as you know, it was not

always possible to withstand it. Are you not now creating a regime that makes it possible to oppress dissidents?

[Gamsakhurdia] This is also a curious question, because no one is oppressing dissidents. Let everyone express.... [changes thought] Take our opposition papers, for example. I think if one were to compare them to any papers in other countries, democratic countries, there would be no difference between them. Everyone can voice his or her view. No one is oppressing them. But if a dissident takes up an automatic weapon, or takes a bomb and starts throwing it at government house, of course that dissident will be made answerable. This is what is being called the oppression of dissidents. And it is alleged that we have arrested dissidents. This is an absolute lie. If someone is going to build barricades in the center of a city, say in Moscow, near the Kremlin, blocking the Red Square—if someone builds barricades, and his armed troops threaten the Kremlin—what will you do? I wonder, what Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Yeltsin would do. What would they do in such a case?

[Skryabin] Thank you, Mr. President, we have one and a half minutes left on the air, and please, if you do not mind, would you like to say a few words?

[Gamsakhurdia] Well, I welcome this first step. I think it will very greatly clarify many issues. To be honest with you, I had expected a more aggressive reception, so to speak. Let's be frank, an information war, a cold war, in the direct sense, is being waged against Georgia. The Soviet Union has halted its cold war against the West, but it has now begun a cold war against those republics which are seeking independence. But I am pleasantly surprised by the fact that this discussion has been different, that it has in fact been a sensible dialogue. I welcome this, and will welcome such dialogues in the future. [passage omitted]

South Ossetia Fighting 'Uncontrolled'

LD1011154991 Moscow TASS in English
1123 GMT 10 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz November 10 TASS—The armed confrontation between the Georgian and Ossetian sides in South Ossetia is assuming an uncontrolled character. The senseless conflict is involving ever new residential areas.

According to the South Ossetia information committee's press centre, firing on the outskirts of Tskhinvali, and populated areas in Tskhinvali and Znauri Districts continued last night.

Aimed fire was conducted on the miners' town of Kvaisa, which is being defended by miners' self-defence

groups. Five people were wounded. The Ossetian side retaliated with firing on weapon emplacements located in Georgian villages.

The ring of blockade around Tskhinvali is tightening. Humanitarian aid supplies can be brought there under the protection of the military only via the Dzghava-Tskhinvali road.

The Ossetian side continues to urge the country's leadership to immediately impose a state of emergency throughout South Ossetia and urgently evacuate women, children, old men and the wounded from the crisis-hit areas. The population continue to seek a transfer of the autonomous region to the jurisdiction of the Russian Federation.

Opposing Sides Take Hostages

LD1111145891 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program
Radio-1 Network in Russian 1300 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] The press service of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs reports that the situation remains tense in South Ossetia. On 8 November a number of militiamen were seized by Georgian guerrillas near Tskhinvali. On 9 November in the morning in the village of Nuli in the Znauri Rayon, the Ossetian side seized eight Georgians and three passenger vehicles. The same day, in the village of Avnevi, Georgians seized 18 Ossetians. Two of them were released as a result of measures taken by an operational investigation group of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Work is under way to obtain the release of the other hostages. Four people were detained for violating the curfew—rifle cartridges were confiscated from one of them.

President Criticizes Mountain Peoples' Decisions

LD1111170391 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1610 GMT 11 Nov 91

[By TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi, 11 Nov (TASS)—The leadership of the republic considered a number of decisions of the third congress of Mountain People of the Caucasus which took place in Sukhumi, the capital of Abkhazia, as disrespect for the sovereignty of Georgia and an encroachment upon its territory. The Georgian president's press service stated that it was illegal to include, at the decision of the congress, Abkhazia and South Ossetia in the confederative union of Mountain People of the Caucasus. That contradicts international law and the constitution of Georgia, the statement says. At the same time, the document notes that anti-Russian and anti-Georgian tendencies and the desire to revive Islamic extremism can be traced in many of the speeches made at the congress.

Presidential Decree Nationalizes Army Property

*LD1211111691 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1030 GMT 12 Nov 91*

[By TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi, 12 Nov (TASS)—Georgia has declared the hardware, equipment, and other military property belonging to units of the Soviet Army stationed in the republic to be its own property. A decree from the Georgian president instructs the republic's Cabinet of Ministers to begin talks with USSR administrative bodies on the transfer of this property.

Decree Claims Internal Troops' Property

*LD1011041591 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0130 GMT 10 Nov 91*

[By unidentified TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Nov (TASS)—Weapons, ammunition, military equipment, and the infrastructure of the internal troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs stationed in Georgia are considered to be the property of the republic as of now. A decree on this, according to the Television News Service program, was signed by President Zviad Gamsakhurdia.

Kazakhstan**Nazarbayev on State Council Meeting, 'Famine'**

PM0811191791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
9 Nov 91 Union Edition p 2

[Vladimir Ardayev "Direct Line" report: "State Council May Meet in Moscow 14 November"]

[Text] Alma-Ata—President N. Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan has given a news conference for journalists at which he answered questions relating to his recent visit to Britain and to the work of the State Council.

In particular, he explained that the next session of the State Council will not take place in Alma-Ata 12 November, as IZVESTIYA has reported, but probably in Moscow 14 November. One of the main questions to be discussed there is the draft of the new Union treaty, which will be presented in the next few days by USSR President M. Gorbachev. Speaking for himself, Nazarbayev said that he does not consider the question of a political treaty as particularly topical at the moment inasmuch as the economic treaty has not yet come fully into play. He himself will probably not be able to attend the upcoming session, since it coincides with his scheduled election tour of the republic.

Touching on questions which are currently especially worrying representatives of the republics which are part of the Interrepublican Economic Committee, Nazarbayev dwelt on the problem of the introduction of national currencies. He said that Kazakhstan views the possibility of introducing its own currency as an extreme forced measure in the event that other republics introduce such currencies. "It will not be our choice," the Kazakh president emphasized.

Nazarbayev told journalists that during his visit to Great Britain he tried to dispel the opinion prevailing in British official circles that the Soviet Union would be able to cope on its own with the food problem which has arisen in the country. He went even further, stressing that unless the West provides effective food aid to the USSR before the end of the current year, famine may set in in the country as early as the beginning of next year, with consequences which will be hard to predict. At the same time Nazarbayev noted that he is less anxious about Kazakhstan than about the country as a whole. This is because in Russia, for example, there already are rayons where bread coupons have been introduced, and the ration quotas are not that great.

Nazarbayev on Necessity of Price Liberalization

LD0811101191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak
Network in Russian 0900 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] What will Kazakhstan do in response to the price liberalization in Russia? Nursultan Nazarbayev, president of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, answered this question during a meeting with a number of central and republican mass media representatives. We will also have to do it, he said. This is not our choice; however, but a necessity. Otherwise all our foodstuffs and industrial output will be bought by sharp operators from other regions of the country, he declared.

Nazarbayev Comments in TRUD on Arms, Yeltsin

LD0911094891 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT
9 Nov 91

[Text] Moscow November 9 TASS—Before returning in Alma-Ata from London, President Nursultan Nazarbayev of sovereign Kazakhstan gave an interview to the TRUD newspaper, which is published today. Responding to a journalist's question, Nazarbayev said he was satisfied with the results of his visit, which will help develop multifarious ties between Kazakhstan and Britain.

Many leading British businessmen are ready to invest their money in Kazakhstan's economy but they asked that their entrepreneurial activity be supported by the government in the form of capital insurance. Nazarbayev said a firm agreement about this was reached with the British side.

"Kazakhstan does not claim the role of a nuclear power either of the global or regional level. At the same time, it is not going to become a nuclear hostage of the centre or Russia if it unilaterally proclaims itself as successor to the Union in the military field. The solution of the problem lies in establishing a double control over nuclear weapons. The nuclear weapons on Kazakhstan's territory will remain where they are deployed now," Nazarbayev emphasised.

Nazarbayev spoke out in support of the provisions of Boris Yeltsin's reform programme. "It's good that he decided to assume the entire responsibility and begin decisive actions," Nazarbayev said.

Nazarbayev Begins Election Campaign

LD0911153891 Moscow TASS in English 1032 GMT
9 Nov 91

[By KAZTAG correspondent Vladimir Akimov]

[Text] Alma-Ata November 9 TASS—Kazakhstan leader Nursultan Nazarbayev nominated for the republican presidency began his election campaign in western regions of the republic on Saturday [9 November].

The republic will hold the first presidential elections on December 1, 1991.

During the tour, Nazarbayev will announce his programme of actions to strengthen the republic's sovereignty,

harmonise inter-ethnic relations, privatise state property and create an inter-republican economic community.

He may also call for accelerated reforms and more energetic moves towards a market economy in the republic.

Nazarbayev is expected to speak on ways to develop the republic's western territories, including Guryevsk, Uralsk and Aktyubinsk regions, which are rich in hydrocarbon resources. But they desperately need Western investments to boost oil and gas production.